

# THE JOURNAL

50 cents (tax included)

Inside Saying good-bye to the beloved Waving Man [A3]

Inside Albany group stumping door-to-door to raise funds for schools [A7]

GROOVIN' ON A SATURDAY EVENING



**MUSIC STUDENTS** put their talents to work at the March 16 Music Fest at the Albany High School Little Theater. The event, which featured performances by amateur and professional musicians, was staged by the AHS Music Boosters to raise money in the wake of a school budget shortfall that forces some programs with uncertain futures. Above are Leah Fuller, Sara Schultz, Eric Wallace and Garin Hect of the AHS Band. Right, AHS Junior Camille Jackson pays tribute to her teacher Tom Lillenthal at the event. Students were slated to perform again at the Superintendent's Concert yesterday. Next up is Clinic Day on April 1, in which some Northern California's best performers will volunteer to do intensive training, followed by a "Students' Concert" for students and the general public in the Little Theater from 8-9 p.m.

JENNIFER PAIGE/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## Neighborhood sees a spectacular but scary electrical light show

By Chris Treadaway

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — "Fireball" is the most common — if technically inaccurate — description that struck several blocks of

residences Saturday.

PG&E workers said it would be more accurate to call it something more mundane — a short circuit. But fireball is a more fitting description for the large white/blue surge of energy that visibly travelled along power lines from Berkeley to El Cerrito and back, knocking out power in its wake and leaving downed lines for almost 24 hours on a cold March day.

It all started with a blown transformer at Cedar and 10th streets in Berkeley that led to crossed 12,000-volt lines that started a fire at a fourplex and sent a massive surge out on the

grid. The surge should have ended at the El Cerrito substation on Schmidt Lane, but a breaker failed to trip, according to a PG&E worker.

The surge continued along lines and overwhelmed portions of the grid on Pomona and Colusa avenues, shattering insulators, downing lines and setting some poles aflame.

An El Cerrito police officer said there were five lines down in that city alone.

Residents, drawn by a sound described as "like a gravel truck," or the rumble preceding an earthquake, went to their windows

or opened their doors to see a surge that one resident said was "as big as a car" going down the street. Calls quickly went out to 911.

According to witnesses, it was followed by another, directionally challenged surge that reached the intersection of Pomona and Eureka avenues, going back and forth before deciding to hang a left toward Colusa.

Police and fire crews arrived and barricaded part of the 700 and 800 blocks of Pomona, where two lines were down and two utility poles were smoldering, one with visible flame.

The phenomenon had neigh-

bors agape and talking among themselves and with fire and police personnel well into the evening.

In all, more than 8,000 homes in Berkeley, Albany and El Cerrito were left without power, with service on Pomona Avenue not restored until some 23 hours after the fireball passed through.

A PG&E lineman said he had seen such surges before, and that the danger is high, adding, "If you're on a pole and you see that coming, you can't get down fast enough."

Gillem set off protests after it was revealed that there would be 348 units of high-density (44 units an acre) housing. Residents contradicted developer Charlie Oewel of CFC Corporation, who said that "the highest priority was high-density housing, that's what we heard loud and clear from the workshop series."

"I don't recall, certainly from what I heard from the workshop, that as residents, we wanted high-density housing," said resident Sean Kelley.

The rest of the plan includes

See DEL NORTE, Page A8

## Readers: We want to hear from you

The Cerrito Theater's fate hangs in the balance — will this bit of El Cerrito's art deco history become a movie house again, or end up as a discount-mattress store? Should the city help restore and run it, or should the theater rest in private hands?

We want to know what you think. So write to us. Try to be concise — 250 words or less — but do write. For how to reach us, see Opinion inside, page A4.

## Albany and El Cerrito play connect-the-trails

■ Planning is proceeding with an effort to connect the Ohlone Greenway and the Bay Trail

By Alan Lopez  
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Richmond, Albany and El Cerrito are working on a plan that will create a trail between the Ohlone Greenway and the San Francisco Bay Trail for pedestrians and bicyclists.

A plan to create the connector between the popular trails and open space areas has been in the works for years and Albany and El Cerrito have been working to obtain grants to fix it

up for the last year, said Albany Community Development Director Ann Chaney.

Because the proposed trail would run through the three cities, El Cerrito entered into an agreement with Albany and Richmond to take this project from a concept to actuality.

In January, Albany received a \$100,000 grant to plan the trail from the regional planning agency the Association of Bay Area Governments. This week, the Albany City Council used \$55,250 of that money to hire a consultant to figure how and where the trail could be built. The plan is needed in order to apply for more grant money from federal, state and local agencies in order to fund the construction of the trail.

"We don't know exactly where (the trail) is going to go," said Chaney. "The creek is certainly

See TRAIL, Page A10

## Albany schools lose 3rd official

■ The most recent administrator to resign oversaw district's budget

By Kara Shire  
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — One by one, top administrators in this city's ailing school district have announced resignations and retirements.

On Tuesday, Walter Wallace, assistant superintendent for administrative services and classified personnel, added his name to the list.

"We really hate to lose him," said Superintendent Gary Mills.

Wallace, who oversaw the district's budget along with many other duties, is the third administrator to resign in three months.

Former deputy superintendent Wayne Padover kicked off the slate of departures with his De-

cember resignation.

Next came Mills, who announced in January that he will retire a year early. His last day on the job will be in June.

Wallace, the last of the district's top administrative team, will leave April 3 for his new post as school fiscal services and accountability administrator with the Solano County Office of Education.

"We're making a lot of changes, aren't we?" Mills said.

Despite perceptions from the outside that the rapid-fire resignations may be a sign of trouble at the helm, Mills and Wallace say that's simply not the case.

"Albany is a hard place to work," Wallace said. "There's no doubt about it. And it's been a hard year. Teacher negotiations and finishing the high school in the same year (was tough)."

Wallace came to Albany schools from the San Bernardino County Office of Education in 2000. The district is beginning to look for an interim replacement for his position.

## Del Norte development proposal draws fire from residents, council

By Alan Lopez  
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The City Council and residents offered criticism, skepticism and contradictions to a working plan to develop parking lots at the Del Norte BART station at the Monday City Council meeting. Eight residents spoke against the plan, saying that it had too much high-density housing and too few parking spaces.

"There is a possibility to do something worthwhile, but this isn't it," said resident Peter Loubal.

Plans have been in the works

to develop the two 8.4-acre parcels of land at the Del Norte BART station since the 1970s, according to Mark Gillem, the architect working on the project. The developer, CFC Corporation, has been in agreement with BART, the land owner, to develop the site since 1994.

Most recently, Gillem has been working with about 100 residents in workshops to find out what people want to see on the land, which is comprised of two parking lots and adjacent property, bounded by San Pablo Avenue, Key Boulevard, Hill Street and Knott Avenue.

Gillem set off protests after it was revealed that there would be 348 units of high-density (44 units an acre) housing. Residents contradicted developer Charlie Oewel of CFC Corporation, who said that "the highest priority was high-density housing, that's what we heard loud and clear from the workshop series."

"I don't recall, certainly from what I heard from the workshop, that as residents, we wanted high-density housing," said resident Sean Kelley.

The rest of the plan includes

See DEL NORTE, Page A8

## WORTH CHECKING OUT

## Republican women meet

El Cerrito Mayor Janet Abeison will speak on "Transportation in the Bay Area" at the Kensington Area Republican Women luncheon meeting on March 27 at the Mira Vista Country Club, 7900 Cutting Blvd., El Cerrito. Social hour is at noon, lunch is served at 12:30 p.m. Abeison is acting chair of West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee. For reservations call Catherine at 510-524-5889. Lunch is \$14 per person and checks should be written to KARW. Deadline for reservations is March 23.

## Cafe Eclectica shows

Cafe Eclectica, 1309 Solano Ave. in Albany, hosts two more shows for all ages this weekend. Tonight's bill is a three bands for \$3 show featuring THETEETH, The Natural Dreamers, and Yasi. Saturday night brings a hip-hop event with all guest DJs and MCs provin' their skills and a freestyle battle starting at 10:30 p.m. Admission Saturday is \$3 with a high school idea and \$5 without. Doors open at 7 p.m. and show starts at 8 p.m. both nights. Details: 510-527-2344.

## ECHS blood drive

El Cerrito High School holds its spring blood drive today in the little gym and asks anyone in the community who would like to donate blood to contact leadership advisor Nancy Bollesvain at 510-525-0234. The drive begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:45 p.m. Stu-

dents are hoping to break the school record for donations.

## Creek and Bay pollution

Lake Merritt's Lakekeeper, Dr. Richard Bailey, will speak about urban runoff and what can be done about this most serious source of Bay Area water pollution at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 1, at the Albany Community Center, 1240 Marin Ave. For more information contact Friends of Five Creeks at 510 848 5656, fccrecks@aol.com, or www.fccrecks.org.

## Sound &amp; Movement

"The Languages of Sound & Movement," a Celebrating Culture & Community series being shown on local cable television is featuring "Kalarali: Dances of India" on COTV (Contra Costa Television, Channel 27 in West County and Albany). Do those dancers' hand movements and facial expressions actually mean something? Why do they have red painted on their foreheads, hands and feet? And how fast can that drummers' hands move? Discover the answer to these questions, and enjoy the sheer beauty of southern Indian classical dance and music on the Indian episode of the series, directed by Richard R. Lee and produced by Eve A. Ma.

## ECDC meeting

The public is invited to attend the upcoming meeting of the El Cerrito De-

mocratic Club at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26, at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. in El Cerrito. It follows the general business meeting of the Club at 7:30 p.m. There will be a discussion of the ECDC's issues agenda for the upcoming year and scheduling of endorsements for city council, school board, and he November general election. Details: Jon Franszek, 510-524-4659.

## Preschool stories

The Albany Library presents "Saturday Morning Stories and More" for ages 3-6. The free series runs every Saturday at 11 a.m. through March 16. Details: 510-526-3720.

## LWV meeting

Former Richmond mayor Rosemary Corbin, is the speaker at the Richmond Area League of Women Voters meeting at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 16. The lunch will be at LaStrada Restaurant, 2215 Church Lane at San Pablo Avenue, San Pablo. Deadline for reservations is April 9. Make checks payable to the League of Women Voters Richmond Area, and mail to Jean Lipton 5917 Columbia Ave., Richmond, CA 94804. Your choice of pasta, chicken or fish does not have to be decided until you reach La Strada. All welcome. League members are encouraged to invite guests. Questions: Jean Lipton 510-525-8155.

## Anniversary gala to benefit Chamber

SEWALL GLINTERNICK  
El Cerrito Chamber

P LANS FOR A June 14 Anniversary Ball — featuring a black-tie gala evening of cocktails, casino gambling, raffle, auctions, formal dinner and dancing high atop the El Cerrito hills at the Mira Vista Golf & Country Club — were announced this week.

The event will commemorate the 85th anniversary of the founding of the City of El Cerrito.

Event co-chairs Christopher Reutz and Kathleen J. Perka said they hope to make the ball "one of the most important social events of the year — one that will be regarded as a must-do affair for years to come."

"El Cerrito has a proud history and tradition as well as a dynamic and promising future that is cause for celebration," they said in a statement.

With the approval of the Chamber's Board of Directors, invitations will be going out soon to area businesses and civic leaders requesting they demonstrate their early support for this project by becoming sponsors or by purchasing individual tickets.

Tentative plans have a 6 p.m. start for the event. On arrival, guests will have their choice of enjoying beverages in the Ballroom Bar, playing casino games in the Ballroom or Oak Room, or participating in a silent auction.

At 8 p.m. guests will sit down to a formal dinner with tables arranged on the dance floor. A live swing/jazz dance band will play during and after dinner. During dessert and coffee there will be a live auction, concluding with the awarding of gaming and raffle prizes.

Dancing will continue until midnight.

## Opening postponed

The grand opening of the Cold Stone Creamery ice cream store in El Cerrito Plaza, originally scheduled for mid-March, has been postponed un-



**CHAMBER MANAGER** Sewall Glinternick, president Marge Collins and past president Bill Kerber flank winning jockey Russell Baze at the group's recent day at Golden Gate Fields racetrack.

til sometime in April. The opening had to be rescheduled due to construction delays, said owners Art and Los Reckless.

The store, which recently joined the Chamber, is part of the fastest growing ice cream franchise in the nation, one becoming famous for its ice cream, yogurt and Italian sorbet, all hand-crafted daily in every store.

The opening promises to be a festive affair, with Mayor Jane Abelson and other community notables expected to attend. Neighbors, residents and students from Harding Elementary will be invited to attend and enjoy free ice cream.

## Lunch deadline today

Members and guests who want to hear the latest news about what's happening at El Cerrito Plaza have until the close of business today to make reservations for the Chamber's monthly business luncheon on March 26.

The guest speaker will be new Plaza manager Laurinda Stout, who will give an update and answer audience questions.

Reservations for the luncheon at Mira Vista Golf & Country Club can be made at 510-233-7040.

## Help with Earth Day

Members are reminded that there is still time to both fund and participate in El Cerrito's 2002 Earth Day observance, co-sponsored by the Chamber, the city and Sustainable El Cerrito.

Letters have already gone out to members inviting them and their employees to join community volunteers April 20 in cleaning up creeks, parks, schools and city streets. Volunteers will be feted at a noon barbecue luncheon at the Community Center. Merchants are being asked to donate funds

See CHAMBER, Page A6

## POLICE REPORTS

## Bicycle stolen off resident's porch

By K. Osborn  
CORRESPONDENT

ALBANY — At about 11 p.m. on March 12 a resident on the 900 block of Kains Avenue reported that within the previous two hours thieves had stolen a bicycle off her porch.

On the morning of March 13 a resident on the 900 block of Kains Avenue reported that thieves had stolen her silver '97 Honda.

On the afternoon of March 13 a resident on the 500 block of Curtis Street reported that vandals had slashed the tire of his blue Toyota Tacoma.

At about 1:30 a.m. on March 14 a resident on the 1100 block of Kains Avenue reported that a thief entered his open garage and stole items from his unlocked black Toyota. He happened upon the subject who fled on a bike when confronted.

On the morning of March 14 a resident at 555 Pierce Street reported that thieves had stolen his gold '94 Jaguar.

Just before midnight on March 14 officers responded to reports of a car alarm going off.

Upon investigation, they found a black '98 Dodge with the rear window smashed out but there was no one around.

On the morning of March 15 a resident on the 1000 block of Curtis Street reported that during the night thieves broke into his green Honda Civic and unsuccessfully attempted to steal the in-dash stereo.

On March 15 a resident on the 900 block of Curtis Street reported that thieves broke into his gray '99 Volvo S/W by smashing the rear passenger window and stole his in-dash stereo and other items.

On March 15 a resident on the 1100 block of Marin Avenue reported that thieves broke into his white '02 Chevrolet the previous night.

On March 16 a resident on the 600 block of San Carlos Street reported that thieves had stolen her Moped from her yard.

At about 4 p.m. on March 16 a resident on the 800 block of Washington Avenue reported during the night that his white '88 Toyota Camry was stolen.

At about 3 a.m. on March 17 officers noticed a silver Chevrolet on the 500 block of Pierce Street that appeared to have been vandaled.

Officers located a Mazda on the 800 block of Lyon Avenue on March 18 been reported as stolen.

On the morning of March 18 officers responded to a report of a subject in a red Honda who appeared to be breaking into a parking lot behind the Theater. The 19-year-old Richmond man was arrested and transported to Santa Rita jail.

On the evening of March 18 officers investigated a report of three adults stealing several DVDs from a video store on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue. They were last seen leaving in a gray vehicle.

At about 12:30 a.m. on March 17 officers stopped a gray '86 Toyota Camry on San Pablo Avenue near Monroe Street for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 42-year-old Richmond man, was found to be intoxicated. He was arrested for DUI.

At about 3:30 a.m. on March 17 officers responded to the Safe Way Store on the 1500 block of Solano Avenue on reports of three subjects observed stealing several cartons of cigarettes. They were last seen leaving the area in a large blue sedan.

During the night of March

17 vandals covered the church on the 1200 block of Solano Avenue with graffiti. Anti-religious nature, night vandals also spray painted on a house on the 1200 block of Spokane Avenue.

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During the week of March 18 officers towed two vehicles responded to eight calls and attended to four lost or found animals, and assisted who were locked out of their house or car. In the arena, officers responded to civil disturbances and disturbances. Officers stopped classes of people issuing 32 and 34 warnings. Fire medics responded to one and nine medical emergencies.

It was reported on March 19 that someone taken from cash register at the 10100 block of San Pablo Avenue. They entered the building to a drive-through window.

Property was removed from a vehicle on the 10900 block of San Pablo on March 5 at 10:15 p.m.

A woman shoplifted merchandise displaying damage at a store on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue. She was refused a merchandise change on March 11 at 11:15 p.m.

Property was removed from a vehicle on the 3300 block of Carbonard on March 12 at 7:20 p.m.

A Honda Accord reported stolen from the 1000 block of Liberty Street on March 12 at 8:25 p.m.

It was reported on March 11 that property taken from a vehicle parked on the 7400 block of Stevens Avenue.

Two bikes were reported taken from a garage on the 5500 block of Macdonald Avenue on March 11 at 10:46 a.m.

It was reported to police at 4:16 p.m. on March 13 that a backpack containing clothing was taken from a vehicle and an unlocked bicycle was taken from a home on the 3400 block of Yosemite Avenue.

Two bikes were reported taken from a garage on the 5500 block of Macdonald Avenue on March 11 at 12:20 a.m.

It was reported at 7:46 a.m. on March 11 that a CD player was taken from a vehicle on the 700 block of Colusa Avenue.

Two men were arrested on the 10200 block of San Pablo Avenue on suspicion of racing their vehicles on March 9 at 12:20 a.m.

It was reported at 11:53 a.m. on March 10 that the right front tire of a vehicle was removed from a vehicle parked on the 900 block of Liberty Street.

A man struck a woman while she was walking the 1200 block of Argonaut on March 9 at 8:55 a.m. The man was hiding in some bushes and jumped out and then ran away.

A pipe was stolen from the 1200 block of Argonaut on March 9 at 8:55 a.m. The man was hiding in some bushes and jumped out and then ran away.

## Attempted robbery includes threat of shooting on San Pablo Avenue

By Alan Lopez  
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — A Richmond man was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting at a store on the 11400 block of San Pablo Avenue on March 15 at 9:10 p.m. The man was booked into the county jail on suspicion of felony petty theft with prior convictions.

A woman was arrested at 6:35 p.m. on March 15 on suspicion of shoplifting at an El Cerrito Plaza store. The woman was booked into the county jail on suspicion of felony petty theft with prior convictions.

A man was arrested on suspicion of attempted robbery and threats after a victim told police that the man tried to rob him and then threatened to shoot him when the victim refused to hand over any money. Police responded to the incident at 7:46 p.m. on March 17 on the 11200 block of San Pablo Avenue, and arrested the suspected robber a short distance away.

A man was arrested at 2:45 p.m. on March 12 after it was reported that he tried to steal items from a store on the 10600 block of San Pablo Avenue. The man was arrested and booked into the county jail for felony theft with prior convictions.

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ILL'S NEWSPAPERS  
IN BRIEF

## Commission offering grants to local groups

MARTINEZ — The Contra Costa Children and Families Commission is offering \$175,000 in Proposition 10 funds to support local community improvement projects that will benefit families with children up to age 5, and is looking for applicants from the West Contra Costa area. Non-profit organizations and community groups are eligible to apply for a \$5,000 Family-Friendly Community Grant projects that provide enrichment activities for parents and children or improve community safety.

Family-Friendly Community Grants provide small sums of money for parents and community members to take action and make the changes for young children that are important for their communities," said commission executive director Brenda Blasingame. "The projects funded by the Commission's Family-Friendly grants are driven by the people who know what's best, and what works, for our neighborhoods."

Previous grants have funded projects including parent seminars proper smoke alarm use; CPR and first aid training; and swimming lessons and water safety training for preschoolers.

Applicants must attend a commission-sponsored information workshop where they will learn about the application process and refine their ideas. Spanish translation and child care will be offered workshops. "We realize that many community members have applied for a grant before," said Blasingame. "The workshops are designed to explain the grant application process and help community members transform a great idea into a successful project." Grant applications are due May 1. Applications will be available at the workshops and can be previewed online at [www.cckids.org](http://www.cckids.org). Applications can be mailed out by request by calling 925-335-9991.

## El Cerrito fundraiser for college scholarships

EL CERRITO — The Friends of El Cerrito High School host their annual fundraiser, the ninth annual Casino Night and Silent Auction, 7-11 p.m. on April 12 at the El Cerrito Community Center, 1001 Moeser Lane, El Cerrito.

Support the high school's most successful fundraiser at a fun-filled night of great food, music, dancing, silent auction and games. Tickets are only \$25 or \$40 for two and include hors d'oeuvres, a chance to win prizes and free games. You can reserve your advance or purchase them at the door. A DJ will provide music for dancing, a silent auction will take place all evening and a beer and wine bar will be open. A donation of \$200 sponsors a game table and sponsorships for 1/4 or 1/2 tables are also available. Proceeds support college scholarships and materials for school programs.

To buy tickets, become a sponsor or donate prizes call Janet at 510-525-3272 or e-mail [bbaker4329@aol.com](mailto:bbaker4329@aol.com).

## 'Daffy Dave' coming to Kensington Library

KENSINGTON — Come to the Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, to watch "Daffy Dave" perform goofy tricks and songs around. All ages are welcome. Attendance is limited and free tickets are being issued during open library hours. The Kensington Library is located at 61 Arlington Ave., This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library. The library is open from 1-6 p.m. Mondays, from noon-8 p.m. Tuesdays, closed Wednesdays, open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, regularly closed on Sundays and holidays. The phone number is 510-524-3043.

## Annual rhododendron show is April 13-14

OAKLAND — The California Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society is holding its annual Rhododendron Show and the only rhododendron show in the Bay Area, from noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday April 13 and 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 14. The show features thousands of rhododendron blooms on display, a wide selection of plants for sale at discount prices and advice on growing them. Hard-to-find tropical rhododendrons types suited to Bay Area climates will be available, as well as other favorites.

The show is at the Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland. Admission is free. Details: 510-482-4473.

## Hunger Hike in Joaquin Miller Park

OAKLAND — Enjoy a scenic hike through the East Bay redwoods raising money to help people in need. Join the Alameda County Food Bank on Saturday, March 23 for a 5K "Hunger Hike" at Joaquin Miller Park. Meet at the park's Ranger Station, 100 Sanborn Drive (off Joaquin Miller Road). Registration starts at 8 a.m. and begins at 10 a.m. Registration is \$20 per person; \$10 per group of 10 or more. Hikers are also encouraged to collect donations. Funds raised will benefit the Food Bank's hunger relief efforts. Snacks, water and commemorative T-shirt provided; hikers also have a chance to win Southwest Airlines gift certificates. To register or for a pledge form, call 510-834-3663, ext. 327 or [secondharvest.org](http://secondharvest.org).

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**PORCHER** American Standard

## Who was Joseph W. Charles? The Berkeley Waving Man, of course

By Martin Snapp  
CORRESPONDENT

It's the end of an era: Joseph W. Charles, the beloved Berkeley Waving Man, passed away at Kaiser Hospital in Oakland last Thursday, a week before his 92nd birthday.

"The Waving Man" was just one of the names he was known by. Some called him "Mr. Goodday," after one of his trademark greetings: "Have a good day!" Others called him "Mr. Smiles," after his other greeting, "Keep smiling!" Still others called him "Charley Wavesalot."

For exactly 30 years — from Oct. 6, 1962, to Oct. 6, 1992 — Mr. Charles got up every morning, donned his trademark yellow construction worker's gloves, and waved to the cars passing by his home on the corner of Oregon and Martin Luther King.

In the process, he became beloved. People who were little kids when he first began waving grew up and drove their own kids past his house, so they could wave to the Waving Man, too.

"He was a Berkeley legend and a local treasure," says Mayor Shirley Dean. "He brought a smile to everyone who knew him."

"He was a joyful person who loved people, and they loved him right back," says former mayor Lori Hancock. "Seeing him every morning was a great way to start the day."

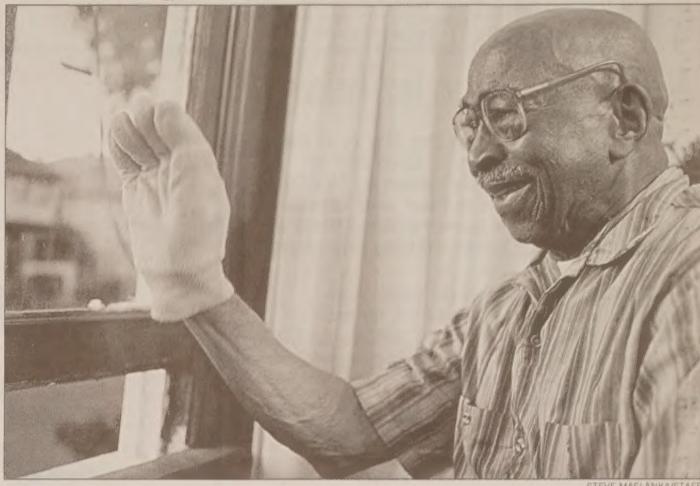
"I started waving to him in 1979," recalls his good friend, Judge Julie Conger. "Even when my son, Zak, was only 1 year old, he used to stand up in his car seat and roll his arms, just the way Mr. Charles did. Another time, my daughter, Dylan, said to me, 'Mommy, it's like having a blessing bestowed on us every day we drive by.'"

In gratitude, Berkeley declared an official "Joseph W. Charles Day" not less than seven times over the years. Following news of his death, the City Council also adjourned in his memory on Tuesday.

But his devotees weren't confined to Berkeley. People in Oakland, Albany, El Cerrito and Richmond would drive miles out of their way, just so they could start their morning by waving to the Waving Man.

And he got fan mail from all over the world, including England, Australia and, especially, Germany. One German admirer's message was typical: "Dear Mr. Waving Man, Thank you for cheering me up every day when I was an exchange student at Cal."

Mr. Charles was born March 22, 1910, in Lake Charles, La. As a young man he played in the Negro Leagues, managing and playing second base for the Lake Charles Black Yankees. Once, he even batted against Satchel Paige when the great pitcher came through town on a barnstorming



JOSEPH CHARLES, the waving man, waving to Christmas carollers singing to him in 1999. STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF

tour. He struck out on three straight pitches.

"But I got a foul tip," he said proudly, "which was better than anyone else did that day."

In 1942 he joined the great African-American migration from the deep South to the Bay Area, where he helped build Liberty ships at the Kaiser shipyards in Richmond. After World War II he went to work as a longshoreman at the Oakland Naval Supply Center, where he remained until his retirement in 1971.

In 1962, he and his wife, Flora, moved into their house in Berkeley. Shortly thereafter, he was raking leaves in the side yard when one of his neighbors — a Filipino man — waved to him.

"So I waved back," Mr. Charles recollects. "The next day, he waved to me again. And I waved back again. On the third day, he came to me and told he was moving back to the Philippines. But I enjoyed waving so much, I didn't want to quit. So I decided to move to the front yard and wave to everyone."

Not everyone took it at first.

"A woman from our church called my wife and said, 'Flora, do you know what that fool of a husband of yours is doing? He's outside your house, waving to strangers!'"

"So my wife leaned out the window and yelled, 'Joseph! Come on in here! You must be going crazy!'"

She remained skeptical for several years, until the media picked up on the story. Mr. Charles was profiled on "Real People," "The NBC Nightly News," "The CBS News" with Walter Cronkite," and "Ripley's Believe It Or Not."

"After that," said Mr. Charles, "she decided that maybe what I was doing wasn't so crazy, after

all. "Some of the neighbors took a bit more convincing; they called the cops. But when the officers arrived, they took one look and started laughing."

"Go ahead Mr. Charles," they said. "You just keep on waving for as long as you want."

Mrs. Charles died in 1982, and Mr. Charles turned their house into a shrine to her. The place was always immaculate ("just the way she would have wanted it," he used to say). And the dining room was always set with her favorite flatware, crystal and china.

Pictures of her adorned every wall, along with those of their sons, Stanford and Joe Jr. (who, unfortunately, predeceased him); grandchildren Robert, Marc, Dominic, Sherill, Antoinette and Mary; great-grandchildren Niala, Charles, Dominic Charles II, Desiree Charles, Robert Charles, Jr., Deshawn Freeman, Charles Kimball, Rochelle Harris and Antoinette Pitts; and great-granddaughter Kiera Charles.

He also served as surrogate grandfather to all the children in the neighborhood, whose parents felt safe when their kids played in his front yard because they knew Mr. Charles would be looking after them.

Mr. Charles retired from waving in 1992 and donated his yellow waving gloves to the Berkley Historical Society Museum. He quit because his declining health wouldn't permit him to perform every day up to his own strict standards.

But he stayed active in the community. He was the Grand Marshall of both the Solano Stroll and the How-Berkeley-Can-You-Be Parade. And every year at Christmas time, his friends and neighbors gathered outside his house to

serenade him with Christmas carols.

In 1987, to celebrate Mr. Charles' 25th anniversary, the city considered installing a plaque on the corner where he stood. But the Department of Public Works vetoed the idea, saying it would cost too much money. So the city renamed the tennis courts across the street as the "Joseph W. Charles Tennis Courts," instead. (Not that he was a big tennis fan, but at least he could look at the sign every day from his front window.)

But an even better tribute came in 1992, a few months before he retired. A stranger knocked on his front door and said, "You don't know me, Mr. Charles, but my wife and I have been having a lot of problems, and we've been thinking of getting a divorce. But after driving by your house every day and seeing your positive outlook on life, we've decided to try and give it another try."

"The nicest part," Mr. Charles recalled later, "is that a few days later, the wife came by and told me the same thing."

Mr. Charles outlived his wife, his children, and two of his personal physicians. But not his fame, which will endure forever.

Today would have been his 92nd birthday. Instead, it's the day of his funeral. The service will be at 11 a.m. at McGee Avenue Baptist Church, on the corner of McGee and Stuart, followed by interment at Evergreen Cemetery in Oakland.

It's a sad day, but Mr. Charles would have told us to be happy, too — happy that he was able to cram so much love into one lifetime.

"Keep smiling," he would say. "And have a good day."

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# Opinion

## The Cerrito Theater: Let your voice be heard

**The clock is ticking as the City of El Cerrito tries to devise ways to save and re-open the space formerly known as the Cerrito Theater. We want to hear your ideas. Should the city take subscriptions? Hold a pledge drive? Is it worth making any effort at all?**

**This page is your forum. Write your thoughts and send them to us, by mail at P.O. Box 1624, El Cerrito, CA 94530; via fax at 510-243-3575 or by e-mail at journal@cctimes.com. Please keep responses concise: 250 words or less.**

### EDITORIAL

## Neighborhood rises to the occasion

**L**AST WEEKEND'S electrical "fireball" doesn't qualify as a disaster of any scale and many residents, in fact, might not have even heard about it.

But as typically happens, whether it's a major earthquake or an electrical overload of the type that occurred Saturday, such situations tend to bring out the best in people.

Neighbors on Pomona Avenue on Saturday did more than just notify emergency personnel and the electrical utility. They kept watch, exchanged information, kept kids and the curious away from downed lines and debris, checked in with elderly neighbors who might need assistance during the prolonged outage of power and heat, made sure the people next door had candles or batteries during the dark night.

It isn't a neighborhood particularly trained for an emergency, but in this instance it was a neighborhood ready to help. It's an important trait in a time of uncertainty when many people are already on edge. And it's a trait that wasn't confined to just the neighborhood residents, either. Police and fire personnel arrived promptly and monitored burning power poles into the wee hours. PG&E crews went to work around 4 a.m. replacing insulators on poles and making inspections 25 feet in the air in pouring rain, working through until after 4 p.m. and all the while answering residents' questions as best they could.

Seeing and hearing the almost blinding surge of electricity was a jarring incident for many residents, but one that brought out the qualities a neighborhood should have.

Being neighborly is hardly out of the ordinary, but sometimes it deserves a pat on the back. This was one of those times.

## Flawed smog attack

**T**HE LATEST ATTEMPT to get the Bay Area to impose stricter smog checks comes from a group of Central Valley lawmakers who claim Bay Area cars share the blame for poor air quality in the Central Valley. They have a point, but it's a small one.

The main causes of poor air quality in the Central Valley are geography and relatively unfettered development. Like the Los Angeles basin, the Central Valley is susceptible to air pollution because of the lack of air circulation and high temperatures in summer.

Suburban sprawl is taking over much of the valley. Housing development is outpacing jobs, forcing many to commute into the Bay Area, causing more pollution.

Before Central Valley legislators or litigants try to pass laws or win lawsuits against the Bay Area, they should look closer to home. State air quality regulators and Bay Area officials say the bulk of the valley's problems are its own and that cleaner cars in the Bay Area won't significantly improve valley air quality.

Richard Varenchik of the California Air Resources Board, said, "You could get rid of all the cars in the Bay Area and the San Joaquin Valley would still be a very serious non-attainment area (for air quality)."

Valley officials often cite a 1990 test that found on a particular day that 27 percent of the smog in the Stockton area was produced from pollution coming from the Bay

See EDITORIAL, Page A7

## HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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## IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Get involved

Berkeley and no substance.

Bonnie Schiffer

### Worth preserving

Friends of the Cerrito Theater is backing efforts to preserve this historic cinema. We'd like the city buy the building and lease it to a theater operator. We believe Oakland's Parkway Theater might still be interested.

Saving the Cerrito Theater is more than an economic issue. The city should not simply try to pencil out its costs and dollar benefits to see whether the theater is worth saving. That short-sighted strategy ignores the much greater historical-artistic and community benefits of saving this wonderful building.

Economics is an important issue, of course. A theater would have a significant economic benefit on the neighborhood, would stimulate development, attract restaurants and cafes, and bring attention to the area.

But there are at least two other perhaps more significant aspects:

■ The historic and artistic: This is one of the most historic and artistically important buildings in El Cerrito. Its value goes way beyond the dollar-and-cents worth of simply serving as a theater. As a historic building with intrinsic value, its value will only increase with time.

Art deco theaters will be much rarer in the future than they are now. Its historical value will increase exponentially. Who can tell what uses the building will serve in 50 or 100 years? A museum? A community space?

■ The benefit to the community: Just as the theater would boost business in the area, it would boost community pride and provide El Cerrito with a place on the Bay Area map. People would recognize the theater marquee; would come to town to admire the murals and the art deco ambience. El Cerrito would have an enhanced sense of place and something to be proud of. It would also retain an important part of its cultural history.

David Weinstein  
El Cerrito

### Changes necessary

Lowering taxes to the wealthy and businesses does little to create jobs. Jobs are created when businesses see the need to provide more services or produce more goods.

Lowering taxes isn't going to create that unless money goes directly to those who will spend it to produce more need for goods and services.

Extending unemployment benefits is perhaps the best way.

Those who are laid off must find other employment or develop a new source of income so that what happened won't occur again. Everyone has multiple talents and abilities that can be used to develop a new source of income to fill a need someone will pay for.

Keeping taxes where they are and spending the money to improve public infrastructure will create jobs, but not quickly enough. It takes time to plan and negotiate contracts to do the work. That delay pushes the new jobs past the end of the recession.

In the final analysis, it's up to businesses and individuals to change their ways of doing business and change their lives to bring about an end to the recession.

Stephen Jory

### Dismal performance

Is it me, or does anyone else question why Albany Middle School, this supposed paragon of education, fails again and again to provide quality education for so many students?

I have a child currently attending the school. It is a nightmare. Ridiculous standards that the average student seems unable to meet are the norm here. This has gotten so much worse in recent years, since I have had children attending there since 1991.

Perhaps, instead of patting these teachers on the back for Project Second Chance, this breakthrough program, you might want to ask why it is necessary to even have a program of this sort.

The Albany school system is all hype

### Pushing a dead horse

This drive to save the historic Cerrito Theater is driven by Lori Dair. She wrote that very promising negotiations with the owners of the Parkway Theater in Oakland recently stalled. It's estimated at \$1 million to return the theater to use.

Why is Dair so gung-ho to lead a group of El Cerrito residents, like Paul Piper, knowing this is not a viable project unless public (city funds) are used?

If the city wants to add to its financial woes, just get involved with this dead horse.

Roy Nagel

### A great success

March 1 was a very proud day for the West County community and local public schools.

On that day, hundreds of volunteers from all walks of the community came along to children in virtually every school in the school district as part of the Reading Across America.

This year, the Community Alliance for Public Education (CAPE) made community participation in the event a priority, as part of our new West County Reads! literacy campaign — and the community responded.

We estimate that more than 100 people stepped forward to read aloud in local schools, perhaps four times more than in previous years. As a result, nearly every young child in local public schools read to by an adult.

Also impressive was the way elementary schools, staff members and teachers welcomed the "readers."

United Teachers of Richmond and Diane Draper, its vice president, deserved special recognition for coordinating the event, which truly demonstrated the power of the community, teachers and school administrators working constructively together.

Through our West County Reads! campaign, CAPE hopes to build upon the success of March 1 and encourage West County to maintain the focus on children's literacy as an ongoing community priority.

There are many ways communities can help year-round. To find out more about such opportunities, consult our website: [westcountyreads.org](http://westcountyreads.org).

Congratulations, West County Reads!

— K. Kevin Haffer  
San Pablo

Haffer is Community Alliance for Public Education chairman.

# THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1775

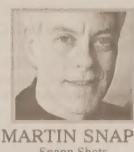
# Waving Man's final years were not what he deserved

**A**S YOU probably know, Joseph Charles, the Berkeley Waving Man, last week, after a lifetime bringing smiles to others. What you don't know — and this is something Mr. Charles' family and friends asked me not to write while he was still alive — is that for the last few years he was a virtual prisoner in his own home. He was scared to open his door to anyone except family and a few trusted friends, and with good reason.

He started about 10 years ago when he was hit on the head by a mugger while gardening in his front yard. That had enough to send him to the hospital.

A few months later, a young man knocked on his door, claiming to be a film crew who wanted to make a documentary about him. When he let them in, they beat him up and stole money.

About a year after that, a



MARTIN SNAPP  
Snapp Shots

woman and a little girl showed up on his doorstep. "Mister," said the woman, "can my daughter please use your bathroom?"

While he was showing the little girl where the bathroom was, the "mother" rifled through his belongings and stole his valuables, including some of his late wife Flora's favorite jewelry.

You can understand why he became reluctant to open the door. Then the phone calls from phony telemarketers started, night after night. Soon, he didn't even want to answer the phone. He felt like he was

under siege.

The reason he asked me not to write about this while he was still alive was that he didn't want me to advertise his vulnerability any further. Not unusually, he was concerned that other bad guys would read it and target him as an easy mark.

But he had no objection to my writing about it now, after he's gone, because he wanted to help other old people avoid the same fate. That's the kind of man he was.

■ ■ ■

Have I made you angry yet? I sure hope so. To think that this wonderful old man, who gave so much to so many for so long, should be victimized like this makes my blood boil.

If we had the death penalty for robbing old people, I'd gladly volunteer for the firing squad.

The problem is, it's so hard to catch the bad guys. They may be the scum of the Earth, but they're experts at striking

quickly and then melting back into the shadows.

Door-to-door scam artists are usually from another state. They come into our community for a day, steal everything they can then hightail it back over the state line before the cops even know they were here.

Telemarketing thieves set up their boiler rooms in one state, use the telephone lines in a second state, and target their victims in a third state — namely, California — creating layer upon layer that makes it next to impossible to trace them.

What can we do about it? For one thing, we must put pressure on our public officials to give the good guys — the cops and prosecutors — a fighting chance. Right now, they're totally outmanned.

For instance, an average of 225 cases of rip-offs against old people are reported in Alameda County every month. (And those are just the cases that get

reported.) But the D.A.'s office only has four lawyers to handle the load. You do the math.

It's even worse in Contra Costa County, which has only two prosecutors assigned to elder rip-offs. Compare that to Santa Clara and San Diego counties, which have each assigned 12 prosecutors to elder rip-off cases.

Call your county supe (if you live in El Cerrito or Richmond, it's John Gioia; if you live in Berkeley, Albany or Oakland, it's Keith Carson) and tell him that when the budget for the next fiscal year comes up this spring, you expect him to push for a hefty increase for the D.A.'s office to prosecute elder abuse.

On a personal level, get more involved with the old people in your life. Take a closer look at your parents or grandparents, or the elderly couple who live down the block. They could be victimized at this very moment, right under your nose.

Even if you're not sure whether you should butt in, butt in anyway. Ask questions. If you think they're too embarrassed to tell you the truth, make friends with their neighbors and ask them to keep an eye on them, too.

Whether the old person is a family member or your neighbor, get involved. Trust me: They can't protect themselves. They're amateurs going up against professionals.

At the first warning sign, call Adult Protective Services' 24-hour Hot Line. In Alameda County, the number is 510-567-6894. If you live in Contra Costa County, the toll-free number is 877-839-4347.

Remember who the victims are. They're nothing less than the Greatest Generation — the GIs and the Rosie the Riveters

who fought the battles and (like Mr. Charles) built the ships, planes and tanks that saved our world from Hitler. We make movies like "Saving Private Ryan" that celebrate what they did for us. Is it too much to ask that they be allowed to live out their final days without fear?

Shame on the scum who prey on them. And shame on us if we don't do something about it.

■ ■ ■

But I don't want you to get the idea that Mr. Charles' last days were nothing but gloom and doom. Far from it. He had a devoted family who loved him very much. Plus a circle of friends — including Judge Julie Conger and his neighbor, John Taylor — who looked in on him, brought him food, and went out to dinner with him at his favorite restaurant, Kinkaid's at Jack London Square. (But we always had to fight him for the check).

He also had the satisfaction of knowing how much good he did. I once did some calculating and figured that he waved to more than 14 million cars over those 30 years. That's an awful lot of people he made happy.

I'll tell you one thing: He'll be remembered long after you and I are forgotten, and rightly so.

He reminds me of a character in Kurt Vonnegut's novel, "The Sirens of Titan," named Boaz, who discovers the secret of happiness. "I've found me a place," he says, "where I can do good without doing any harm."

That was Mr. Charles. He did good without doing any harm. How many of us can say as much?

E-mail Martin Snapp at [catman@california.com](mailto:catman@california.com) or call him at 510-273-9039.

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## Everyone knows her as 'Marge'

**Y**OU CAN'T MISS HER. Almost anywhere you go in El Cerrito you are sure to see Marge Collins, and she is a commanding presence. As we sat at the Miraflores Country Club, she was greeted by everyone who passed, and she was busy asking about their wives, sympathizing that the was unavailable because she was remodeling being done, just generally schmoozing. You can't miss her at the Costa Civic Theater, either. She is spending much of her time there during the renovations, as the vice president of the theater board directors and the chairman of the renovations committee.

She told me she is so glad and excited about the being done there that she hardly keeps away from it.

renovations, she said, "will long way toward making building safer and bringing water up to code and up to date."

The work, incidentally, is being done by Marvin Collins,

Construction. Marge is Mrs. Marvin Collins (Marvin has long since sold the contracting firm), and has been working with her husband for years. And as president of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce she is also everywhere else where something is happening. And loving it.

If you occasionally see references in the paper to a Margaret Collins, that is she. But everywhere else she is known as Marge.

She was born in Ogden, Utah, but her parents were soon transferred to Pocatello, Idaho, where she grew up.

She went through school and college there, planning to pursue a career in music. Her interest in music began early, when her mother told her, "You should sing. You have a beautiful voice." She sang in her high school and in her church choir.

She was one of 14 people from her area who went to New York to try to get into the Juilliard School of Music but, she did not make it. Instead, she became a model, with the help of a friend, named Candy

Jones, who already was one. ("I weighed 98 pounds then," Collins remembers).

She modeled in many prominent places, and at one of them ran into the advance man for Fred Waring — of Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians. He said he heard she had applied to Juilliard, so she sang for him.

She was hired as a contralto, and she stayed with the band for about a year. She left because she had just gotten married, and the band was going on tour to Cuba. She didn't want to go.

"It cut that career short," she says. "But I had a lot of fun while it lasted."

She stayed at home, had a baby boy, and then got into So-

cials Services. She worked in a special department that oversaw a new program where citizens could sponsor an immigrant if he or she could prove that there was a home for that person and a job available.

"The work opened my eyes to the plight of underprivileged and needy people, people on welfare," she notes. "That was a turning point in my life. I decided I was going to save the world, or at least some of the people in it. I saw so many

See FOLK, Page A6

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# School fund-raising group hits the streets

By Alan Lopez  
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — A group of parents and an army of volunteers are working to raise money for local schools to help make up for programs the school district will be cutting in light of its budget deficit.

The nonprofit organization SchoolCARE (Citizens of Albany Rescue Education) was founded last year by a group of parents and teachers led by Amy Menzimer, in response to last year's budget crunch. This year the group has grown much larger, with the district slicing \$1.5 million from its \$22 million budget. SchoolCARE raised \$180,000 last year, enough to fund per-

forming arts classes in the kindergarten through third grade; fourth and fifth grade science; elementary and middle school counseling; middle school noontime supervision and after school sports; and advanced high school French and Spanish classes, according to the organization.

That spring, the group is not

really looking at dollar amounts, said SchoolCARE spokeswoman Bob Menzimer, but is instead aiming to double the number of people living and working in the community willing to donate money and increase the number of corporate donations. The aim is to fill gaps in the school district budget.

"For us the central issue is

that (the cuts) really begin to cut away those elements of public education in Albany that have traditionally made education in this community strong and have drawn people to live here," said Menzimer.

SchoolCARE hopes to reach its goal by the start of summer, when the district unveils the classes and teachers offered for the 2002-03 school year. Any money raised will be given to the school district, which will work with the individual schools to figure out where the money will go.

The SchoolCARE spring fund-raising campaign will begin this weekend, when about 65 volunteers will roam Albany streets,

handing out brochures to every resident in the city, with information about the budget cuts and how donations can save school programs.

Menzimer said SchoolCARE's efforts are needed throughout the year and it will be working indefinitely to raise money for Albany schools. He laid the blame for lack of funding on the state and said it is up to the community to find ways to make up the deficit.

"If we want quality education, we're just going to have to pony up the dough for it," he said.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alelopez@cctimes.com.

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Jane Metcalfe  
Co-Founder, Wired Magazine



## Del Norte

FROM PAGE A1

84,000 square feet of retail, 52,000 square feet of office space and a 28,000-square-foot fitness center. The plan also "improves the efficiency" of the station's intermodal zone and increases its capacity by 25 percent, according to a memo given to the City Council.

BART replacement parking and all required new parking — nearly 1,650 spaces in all — would be located underground on the San Pablo Avenue side of the site, "thereby minimizing the regional traffic impact on local streets to the east of the BART station."

The plan also includes a small park east of Kearny Street and more greenspace west of the BART station. A plaza connects San Pablo Avenue with the BART station and a pedestrian crossing is proposed across San Pablo.

"There's a lot of aspects in the plan that are exciting," said Councilman Mark Friedman, "and a lot of aspects that are troubling."

Only one resident spoke in favor of the entire plan, with others having concerns ranging from parking to the impact of the development on views from nearby homes. Several residents also said the plan didn't reflect what they said they wanted during the workshops.

About four residents said the parking would be inadequate and cars would spill over into the surrounding neighborhood. "There will be a massive parking impact on the neighborhood," said Robert Sessler.

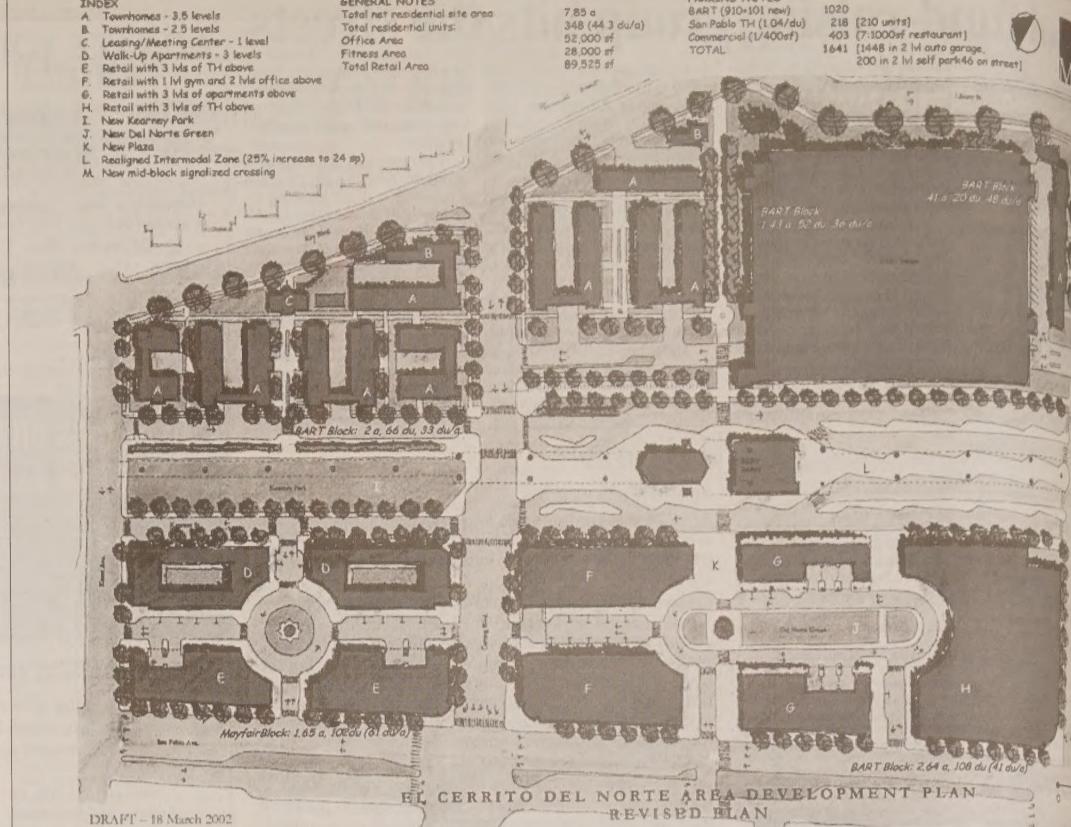
Resident Bill Pitt said a signal light on San Pablo Avenue would adversely affect traffic flow.

Sean Kelley said he wants to see housing that is owned instead of rented. "Apartments (that are rented) will fall in disrepair and will become eyesores," he conceded.

A BART representative told the council that the plan would evolve and have to go through the state, city and BART approval process before anything could be constructed.

The council was skeptical about the project, though members applauded efforts to involve community input. Ultimately, the council tabled the issue so it could discuss it at another meeting.

"I'm glad to see you are giving the community every opportunity to make this a property that the community can support," said Friedman.



DRAFT - 18 March 2002

COURTESY OF

THIS IS the layout of the proposed development at the Del Norte BART station that the council discussed Monday.

tunity to make this a property that the community can support," said Friedman.

For more information about the Del Norte plan, visit [www.ecdelnorte.com](http://www.ecdelnorte.com).

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at [alopez1@cctimes.com](mailto:alopez1@cctimes.com)



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Free Drawing at 12:00 noon

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## GOING TO THE TOP

### East Bay Women in Business Roundtable Breakfast

In Partnership with Women in Technology International (WITI)



Designer, sculptor and founder of The International Cheemah Monument, Osprey Orielle Lake will speak about her momentous project and its meaning to women, the diverse cultures of the world, and business. Cheemah, Mother of the Spirit-Fire, is an 18-foot tall bronze monument dedicated to symbolize cultural diversity, world unity and care for the earth. The International Cheemah Monument project will place eight Cheemah monuments around the world to create an inspiring bridge between cultures. Two of the monuments have already been produced and placed – one at the Hamburg International Airport in Germany and the other at a cultural center in Majorca, Spain. A third will be placed and dedicated in May of 2002 in Oakland's Jack London Square.

This breakfast promises to inspire and generate insight as this exceptional artist shares about her career creating challenging and poignant works of art, as well as training young people to become confident artists and business people who will create meaningful additions to their communities and the world around them.

Friday, April 5th, 2002  
 7:15-7:30 am - Breakfast  
 7:30-9:00 am - Meeting

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LAKE MERRITT HOTEL**  
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# Holy Week Services



Join us for Easter at Northbrae

Service at 10:30 A.M.

Easter Egg Hunt on the front lawn at 10 a.m. prompt!

## NORTHBRAE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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## PIEDMONT COMMUNITY CHURCH

100 Highland Ave., Piedmont

547-5700  
Holy Week Services  
Sun, March 24  
10:00 am Worship Services  
Monday-Friday, March 25-29  
8:00-8:30 am Daily Morning Meditation  
Maundy Thursday, March 29  
5:45 pm Church Dinner (adults \$15, seniors \$10, children 18 \$5, family max. \$35)  
7:00 pm Worship Service  
Good Friday, March 29  
12 noon Worship Service  
Easter Sunday, March 31  
8:30 am Sunrise Worship Service in the fountain courtyard  
10:30 am Easter Festival Services in the Sanctuary



## Join Us This Holy Week

Wednesday Contemplative Service (Taizé)  
8 a.m. Prayer, chants and reflection,  
with supper following

Thursday  
8 p.m. Candlelight Passover Seder  
meal and liturgy

Good Friday  
10 p.m. Tenebrae service of light and shadow

Easter Sunday  
8 a.m. Celebrate the Resurrection  
childcare provided.  
Easter egg hunt following

First Presbyterian  
Church of Oakland  
5th & Broadway, 444-3555



CORPUS CHRISTI CHURCH  
322 St. James Drive  
Piedmont, CA 94611  
510-530-4343

## CELEBRATION OF THE TRIDIUM

HOLY THURSDAY, March 28, 2002  
7:30 p.m. - MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

GOOD FRIDAY, March 29, 2002  
12:30 p.m. - GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY  
7:30 p.m. - TENEBAE

HOLY SATURDAY, March 30, 2002  
8:00 p.m. - EASTER VIGIL MASS

EASTER SUNDAY, March 31, 2002  
8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. & 12:15 p.m.  
EASTER MASSES

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is not  
celebrated during Holy Week or on Holy Saturday.



Please recycle this newspaper

**"he is risen!...as he said!"**

**Celebrate Easter with Us!**

**6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service**  
*ON OUR ROSE GARDEN PATIO*

**7:30 a.m. Pancake Breakfast**

**9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Festival Services**  
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## Christian Science Church Services

1521 Spruce St., Berkeley  
Sunday Services

Sunday School for young people

10 AM

848-2047

Sunday, March 24

Subject: Matter

Wednesday Testimony Meetings:  
8:00 PM - All are welcome

Reading Room:

1486 Solano Ave.

Albany 526-4252

## Holy Week Offerings

Sun. 3/24 - 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday

Thur. 3/28 - 7:30 p.m. Maundy Thur.

Fri. 3/29 - 7:30 p.m. Good Friday

Sun. 3/31 - 10:10 a.m. Meet at Rockridge

BART Station for Bagpipe Band Led

Easter Processional

10:30 a.m. Worship featuring Choir,

Organ, Brass, Bagpipe Band Medley, Entry

of 'Empty Cross,' A Message to Encourage

You to trust and follow Christ

Rev. Bill Beatty, Pastor

**Hallelujah!  
Christ is risen!**



Join us as we prepare for and celebrate  
the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Palm Sunday, March 24

8:00 am Eucharist

9:00 am Eumenical Blessing of the Palms in Montclair Park

followed by Procession of the Palms to St. John's Episcopal Church

Wednesday, March 27

7:30 pm Tenebrae - Service of Darkness

Maundy Thursday, March 28

6:30 pm Supper

7:30 pm Eucharist, Footwashing and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, March 29

7:30 pm Procession of the Cross, Prayer Vigil

Easter Vigil, March 30

7:30 pm The Great Vigil of Easter

Sunday, March 31

8:00 am Eucharist

9:00 am Nursery Opens

9:45 am Children's Celebration

10:00 am Choral Eucharist

Childcare for infants and toddlers available at all services

St. John's Episcopal Church, Oakland

1707 Gouldin Road (off Thornhill, in Montclair) 510 339-2200

## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH



MARCH 28th MAUNDY THURSDAY - 7:00 P.M.  
Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar

MARCH 29th GOOD FRIDAY - 7:00 P.M.  
Musical reflection on the Passion with  
choir, strings, oboe and organ

MARCH 31st EASTER - 10:00 A.M.  
Festival Eucharist with Choir, Brass & Bells

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## First Covenant Church

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Good Friday Communion Service

March 29 7:30 PM

Music and meditation, remembering the crucifixion of Jesus Christ

Easter Sunday Worship Morning

March 31 9:00 AM and 10:45 AM

Joys of celebration,  
full of the bright music and great Hope of Easter!

Complimentary Easter Sunday Brunch

10:00-10:45 AM in the gym

Free parking, doors open 1/2 hour before the services, child care available.

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Written and Arranged by  
Leonard B. Lethien  
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March 29th-30th - 7:00 p.m.  
Easter Sunday Morning  
March 31st - 10:00 a.m.  
NO CHARGE - FREE ADMISSION

For further information, please call (925) 829-3113

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Easter Sunday  
March 31, 10:30 a.m.

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after the service

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## El Cerrito police seeking information in pair of robberies

**EL CERRITO** police are asking for the public's help in the identification of a man who robbed the Payless Shoe Source store at Carlson Boulevard and San Pablo Avenue on March 6. The man browsed in the store, selected merchandise and then approached the register. He simulated a weapon at the employees and demanded cash from the clerk. After taking the money and merchandise, he fled in an unknown direction. The suspect is described as an African-American male, 25-30 years old, 5-foot-8, weighing approximately 170 pounds. The man appeared to have stitches in his left ear. Anyone with information on the suspect in the attached photograph please contact Detective Scott Cliatt of the El Cerrito Police Department at 510-215-4420 or in person at 10900 San Pablo Ave. in El Cerrito. The case number for this incident is 02-1439.



**EL CERRITO POLICE** are requesting the assistance of the public in the identification of a robbery suspect who was seen taking items from the Target store on Tuesday. The suspect walked around the store with a large black trash bag. When unarmed store security officers attempted to stop the suspect after he left the store without paying for the items, he simulated a weapon and threatened to shoot them. The suspect then fled the area with the merchandise. The suspect is described as a light-complexioned African-American male with graying hair in a ponytail, about 5-foot-6 and weighing 145 pounds. Anyone with information about the identity of this suspect is asked to contact Detective Clatiatt of the El Cerrito Police Department at 510-215-4420 or in person at 10900 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. The case file number for this incident is 02-1701.



# New law gives horse track workers the choice to unionize

By Clare Curley  
STAFF WRITER

Despite a new law allowing backstretch workers to organize, the Service Employees International Union, which started court ing stable workers at Golden Gate Fields two years ago, has yet to make the first move.

The law became effective in January and gives some 3,500 backstretch workers statewide the opportunity to form unions. The workers consist of hotel

But the work schedule makes it difficult for some workers to attend and a pension plan. Spanish-speaking workers are offered English classes, as well as on-site drug and alcohol counseling.

ited English skills, many of whom chose to live in on-site housing.

"Right now, the state is in the process of figuring out its access

it difficult for some workers to take a day off, he said, even for doctor appointments. "It's a seven-day-a-week job," he said. The hours vary from barn to

process of figuring out its access rules — it's taking longer than people expected," said Tom Csekey, vice president of the Local 1877 union of Northern California.

Cserey said it's been a year and a half since he has spoken to any of the employees who tend days, Bachstetren workers end up working extra-long days.

"It's a burden if you have a family," he said. "They should have a swing man come in and take over for a person who needs the day off."

Houghton conceded the situation varies from barn to barn. But, she said, the track also provides flexibility, like allowing workers to go to Mexico for several months and return to the day off.

claiming unsanitary living conditions and pay abuses at state racetracks, the new law also requires that racetrack housing meet state and local standards, as well as establishing regular labor commissioner audits of non-union employees of backstretch racetracks.

The pay dinners — up to \$1,800 a month for grooms — and workers have the option of living in small rooms in the stable area for free.

Some trainers are already planning to leave the state because

cause of California's recently increased Workers Comp fees, said Houghton.

"Most of the trainers would *downsize*" if their workers voted

workers two years ago. Since union members held a bilingual rally of support at the waterfront over a year ago, however, some employees have begun to question their stance on organizing.

According to Aurelius Thomas, a foreman at Golden Gate Fields, "If my barn votes to go union, I could negotiate to pay minimum wage."

Fields is actually a campaign on the part of trainers to derail unionization.

Still, there is some fear the new system wouldn't take into account varying levels of expertise among backstretch workers.

The fear is that if the workers unionize, trainers would have to hire more workers and pay out more in Workers Compensation, said Thomas, which could end rise among backstretch workers. "What (the union) fails to realize is this is a profession," said Thomas, who isn't sure where he stands on the union issue.

August with residents and city officials from the three cities to decide what the trail will look like and Alta will try to come up with a consensus by November. Once there is a decision on what the trail will look like, grants for construction will be sought.

The consultant, Alta Trans-

August with residents and city officials from the three cities to decide what the trail will look like and Alta will try to come up with a consensus by November. Once there is a decision on what the trail will look like, Alta will begin the process of getting permits and funding.

the trail will look like, grants for construction will be sought.

"Depending on how successful the consensus building part of it and all of that goes, we could be talking another year before

# Real Estate & Home

Supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclarion, The Piedmonter

Friday, March 22, 2002

Section B

**Weekly Home Sales** Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B6]  
**Open Home Guide** See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B13]



DENNIS EVANOSKY

SUNNY 1912 CRAFTSMAN-STYLE HOME at 215 Ramona Ave. in Piedmont offers lots of living space.

## Piedmont home steeped in artistic tradition

BY GAIL LOMBARDI  
CORRESPONDENT

eriment figure — and later painter Elmer Bischoff painted it white — all white," Emma knew color. "I felt that white would make his wife's house at 215 Ramona in Piedmont with its qualities and materials. That 10 years ago, and the present have kept that tradition."

### Built in Craftsman style

Builders in Piedmont were busy in the years following the 1906 earthquake, as many San Franciscans, who lost their homes in the earthquake and subsequent fire, fled to the East Bay to build new homes. As part of this building boom, Emma and Walter

Offered at \$859,000, the home at 215 Ramona Ave. in Piedmont will be open both this Sunday and next from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

See TRADITION, Page B2

## Ready, set, go



ROBIN SCHOK

BY BARBARA HENDRICKSON  
RED OAK REALTY

Holly and Robin Schick realized that their beloved three-bedroom Rockridge bungalow conveniently located just south of the Berkeley border, was getting too small their growing family, two kids and maybe another in the near future. So, they decided to look around for a larger home. They started out looking at houses in the same area hoping to find something that would suit

their needs. After several frustrating months, they revamped their game plan and decided to move to Colorado to the town where Robin had grown up, near where his parents live.

Their focus changed suddenly from where they would move to and when they would move, to just how fast could sell their Rockridge home they get on to their new life in Colorado. The challenge became how a family who had been accumulating

things for years get their house on the market in less than 3 weeks! The house was filled with, it turned out, over 100 boxes of baby gifts, papers, clothing, dishes, wedding gifts, framed photographs, toys, Ikea and Pottery Barn furniture and more miscellaneous stuff than anyone could have predicted.

Holly has a masters degree in fashion design and Robin is a

See BUNGALOW, Page B2

## PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



### 303 PACIFIC AVENUE

\$2,950,000

Regency Revival mansion - meticulously renovated. 6BR/4.5BA. Gorgeous kitchen, maple paneled family room, large terraces on 2 levels w/sweeping Bay views. Nancy Lehrkind

### 505 SCENIC AVENUE

\$1,069,000

Spectacular views & privacy from this contemporary on a 1/2 acre terraced lot! Decks galore, 4BR/3BA. Must see!

Angela Wei Grubb

### 22 WILDWOOD AVENUE

\$689,000

This lovely Prairie-style home has it all - 4BR/2.5BA, a spacious living room, formal dining room, cozy den and eat-in kitchen. Mavis Delacroix

## OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



### 6013 SKYLINE BLVD.

\$2,300,000

Live in a work of art. Stunning new home by David Stark Wilson. Sited for maximum privacy w/sweeping Bay views. Exceptional architecture & finishes. Erika Celeste

### 4350 BRIDGEVIEW DRIVE

\$749,000

Elegant Spanish Mediterranean w/old world charm. Remodeled kitchen, sunny breakfast room, family room & landscaped garden. Sherry Benninger

### 6919 BRISTOL DRIVE

\$1,080,000

Striking contemporary design infused w/traditional features. Exquisite handcrafted & designer details. 4 or 5BR/4BA. Owner will consider all offers. Debra Dryden

### 1706 TRESTLE GLEN RD

\$689,000

Move right in to this Crocker Highlands traditional w/wonderful details. 3BR/2BA, updated kitchen, large formal dining room & living room w/fireplace. Bettina Balestrieri

### 5556 BACON ROAD

\$1,049,000

Newer construction on over 1.4 acres. 5+BR/3.5BA. Large kitchen w/adjacent family room w/fireplace and access to decks. Spacious master suite. Mavis Delacroix

### 5940 CHABOT CREST

\$660,000

Beautifully maintained and updated Rockridge gem! Great location! 3+BR/3BA, kitchen opens to deck & garden, double garage and extra storage. Susie Schevill

### 6272 CROWN AVENUE

\$639,000

A magical Montclair retreat 3+BR/3 full BA. Fabulous remodeled eat-in kitchen. Great garden with inviting hot tub. Karen Starr

### 428 BELLEVUE AVENUE

\$625,000

Circa 1910 shingle beauty w/original architectural details & built-ins. Beamed ceilings, leaded windows, 4+BR/2+BA. Elizabeth Dickson

### 230 SHERIDAN ROAD

\$829,000

Upper Rockridge sophistication. 3BR suites, new kitchen, cozy family room with fireplace, sweeping Oakland hills view and level sunny garden. John Karnay

### 5965 KEITH AVENUE

\$599,000

Fabulous Rockridge 2BR w/nursery or office. Formal living & dining rooms, inlaid mahogany floors, French doors, two fireplaces & so much more. Debbi DiMaggio

### 6226 CHABOT ROAD

\$775,000

Heart of Rockridge! Light & bright, split level. 3+BR/2BA, breakfast room, elegant formal dining room, built-ins and beautiful details. Close to BART. Donna DeBardi

### 10 KINGWOOD ROAD

\$539,000

This attractive home features a traditional floor plan w/3BR plus a study upstairs, master suite, family room off kitchen, large living room & 2-car garage. Steve Michaelides

### 2944 AVALON AVENUE

\$1,900,000

Grand Claremont Court classic! 5+BR/4.5BA, large family room, den, sun room, updated kitchen, au-pair quarters. Close to shops and BART. Bebe McRae

### 450 ARLINGTON AVENUE

\$599,000

Dramatic Surprise! Fabulous great room, open floor plan, view from all levels. 3BR/2BA. Great location, close to coffee, shopping & transportation. Ruth Frassetto

### 2539-2541 HILGARD AVE

\$900,000

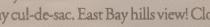
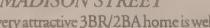
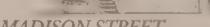
Fabulous Northside traditional duplex, close to campus, gourmet ghetto & more. Both units 2BR/2BA. Views, style & privacy! Tricia Swift

### 2200 MARIN AVENUE

\$579,500

Gracefully proportioned rooms! High ceilings! Remodeled eat-in kitchen. French doors from DR to garden. Some Bay & bridge views. 3 BR/2.5BA. Chris Cohn

## BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



### THE FINE ART OF "DE-CLUTTERING."

Homeowners Robin and Holly Schick took on the huge task of de-cluttering their house. The results are obvious in these before and after photos.



## Bunallow

FROM PAGE B1

graphic artist. It was evident by the choices they'd made in the things they'd bought that they both had "good eyes" for color and design.

Because they both worked long days and had little time with their kids, their home was quite cluttered, reflecting the fact that their time was spent nurturing their kids not cleaning the chaos.

Money was tight. They had to shell out a lot of money for their new Colorado home and would very

soon be carrying two mortgages. We talked about staging the house using one of the many professionals who are available to take the heat stress out of moving but that was not an option.

We laid out a plan. I introduced them to my three secret wizard workers — Brett, Joe and Jimmy — to do general repairs and some painting, and to spruce up the garage to make it into an art studio/home office. Robin and Holly then took on the huge task of de-cluttering the house: the most important and most difficult part of the plan.

They also packed up what they knew they did want to take with them and labeled it for shipping.

After five trips to the dump, several pick-ups by Goodwill and an office moved from the baby's room

into the garage, they were ready to go on the market.

"It is all about what we've collected," Robin says, "really most of the time we have really liked what we bought, until it became clutter."

"We just had too many things," says Holly, "nice things, but when we wanted to show off our home we could hardly find its bones."

All of us who travel the circuit of open houses know that the key to "staging," presenting small homes is showing freshly painted, brightly lit and scrubbed spaces, with a few nice pieces of furniture to give a sense of proportion and color so

that the buyer's eye can imagine moving into a simple, clutter free life. Isn't that what we all think that we want, at least on a sunny Sunday afternoon?

This Sunday afternoon March 24th from 1 to 5 p.m., when people come through Robin and Holly's house at 443 65th St. — just east of Telegraph — in Rockridge, they'll find a real urban oasis: a lovely three-bedroom, one-bath home with original detailing, including a bath that's been remodeled in the style of the house with a claw foot tub.

In addition, a lush fully fenced yard with a hot tub and a large deck

Offered at \$425,000, the home will be shown Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m.

To learn more, Barbara Hendon 510-280-2149

for entertaining. If that's not your style, the home has a garage used as an art studio.

The home is listed with Barbara Hendon 510-280-2149.

**But is it just sweat?**

Before you tear down the tank, be certain that it is not a sweating tank. This causes condensation to form on the outside of the tank due to the difference in temperature between the toilet tank and the air around it.

If the problem is condensation, this can be solved in one of two ways — by insulating the liner or a temporary fix.

**A look at the liner**

The tank liner or rubber membrane is in the interior surface as a layer of insulation.

Permeating water is a function of the liner and the water supply. If it is leaking, it may need to be replaced.

**Clean the connections**

The connections and openings with a soft dry cloth and install new washers. Also install a new washer where the tank discharges into the bowl.

This eliminates water waste.

The former is a common

yourself project, whether often requires a professional.

## Tradition

FROM PAGE B1

Gabriel built 215 Ramona Ave. in 1912 and lived here for 4 years.

Built in the popular Craftsman style, the upper story is shingled; the first floor has the heavy stucco of the 1910s. Other Craftsman details include the exposed beams under the wide eaves; two large brackets under the overhanging upper story in front; the gabled dormer and the distinctive low arches over the front porch.

### Sunny exposure

The home 215 Ramona Ave. takes full advantage of its southern exposure, and light fills many of its rooms. From the sunny front porch, walk into the central entry hall with its graceful staircase and Craftsman-style banisters.

The large living room is on the left with its west facing bay window, built-in bookcases, marble fireplace and traditional mantle. The dining room on the right is wonderful for

entertaining with French doors opening to a sunny brick patio and garden beyond. A second door opens onto the front porch.

A short passageway to the kitchen has glass-paneled china cabinets. The kitchen has been updated, and there's a laundry, full bath and "plus" room beyond. The original bead board still exists in the service area.

### Lots of closet and storage space

Upstairs, large windows again fill the rooms with light. The front bedroom has a wall of built-in bookcases, a large closet with more built-ins and a unique hidden sink with drop-in lid (installed when the room was used as a dark room). The second bedroom is also large with a generous closet with more built-in cabinets and shelving. Both bedrooms share a full bath.

The master suite sits quietly at the rear of the house overlooking trees and gardens. Again, roomy closets and built-in cabinets offer

lots of storage space. A short hall lined with more closets leads to the master bath and private upstairs den. Originally, a balcony, then a sun porch, the light-filled den has generous windows on two sides and offers bay views.

Previous families living at 215 Ramona Ave. have left their legacy. The Horace R. Gaithers lived here in the 1920s and 1930s and installed the sunny brick patio. Jean Bischoff, former wife of painter Elmer Bischoff, raised her family here in the 1950s and 1960s. She painted the house white, and it's been white ever since.

The home will be open both

this Sunday and next, March 24

and 31, from 2 to 4:30 p.m. For

further information, contact Claire

Cunningham at Prudential Califor-

nia Realty in Piedmont at 510-

287-9065.

Gail Lombardi is an architectural historian and secretary to the Piedmont Historical Society. If you are interested in a house history, please contact her at 510-547-3311.

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY  
FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

O. Volker asks: How do I change a leaking toilet tank?

A. The first step in repairing a leaking toilet tank is to determine where the leak is located and what is causing it.

There are several possible causes, the most obvious of which is a hairline crack in the tank — often virtually undetectable.

### Check the penetrations

Other possible causes are: the four factory penetrations at the bottom of the tank where connections are made to the water supply, where the tank is bolted to the bowl, and at the location where water flows from the tank to the bowl.

Each of these locations has a rubber washer designed to ensure a watertight connection. Over time, the connections might

become loose or the washers

might deteriorate, requiring replacement.

### Finding the leak

An easy means of determining the location of the leak is by placing a few drops of food coloring into the toilet tank. Wait about an hour and return to the scene to search for colored water at the outside of the tank. If the leak is at one of the factory penetrations, use a wrench or a screwdriver to tighten the connection.

Dry the area and return in another hour to see if the problem has been solved. If it hasn't been, try replacing the washers.

Drain the tank by turning off the water supply and flushing the toilet. Disconnect the water supply, remove the two bolts that anchor the tank to the bowl.

Clean the connections and openings with a soft dry cloth and install new washers. Also install a new washer where the tank discharges into the bowl.

**SecurityPad**  
Real Estate Broker  
3223 Blume Drive, Richmond  
<http://www.spre.com>  
**510-222-8870**

## EL CERRITO

### NEW LISTING/CLOSE TO BART

3 BR 2 BA Approx. 1100 Sq. Ft. Converted garage w/ fireplace, hardwood floors, RV parking, well maintained. #02006201 Bing Pierce 510-273-9175

### NEW LISTING/GREAT QUALITY THROUGHOUT

3BR, 2BA over 2000 Sq. Ft. 1 car att. garage, winterized Hardwood floors, family room, lovely yard w/deck. Lynette Ng 510-662-8497



**NEW LISTING/CHARM & STYLE IN MIRA VISTA**  
5413 Hillside Ave. (Open Sun. 2-4) 3+BR 1.5 BA Approx. Sq. Ft. 2 Car att. garage, Quiet Street, traditional home in wonderful neighborhood, great fenced yard w/deck & fireplace. Gleaming hardwood flrs., Formal dining rm., move-in cond. #02006767 www.carladellazoppa.com 510-662-8558

## RICHMOND VIEW

### SUPER AREA!

3 BR 2 BA Sunny home with charm & woods in the back potential downstairs, 1 car att. garage, fireplace, central heat, deck, #02006387 www.cynthiaburke.com 510-662-8558

## BERKELEY

### INCOME PROPERTY/GREAT DUPLEX

Could be a 3BR 2BA home. Full basement w/ laundry, fixer. Central heat, garage, some hardwood. Rents could be increased. #02006897 Ed Messner 510-222-8870 ext. 123

Visit our website - <http://www.spre.com>

To contact the real estate editor, call 510-743-1665 or e-mail [devanosky@cctimes.com](mailto:devanosky@cctimes.com)

**HARBOR BAY REALTY**  
SALES • RENTALS • PROPERTY MANAGEMENT  
**510-523-1144**  
885 Island Drive, Alameda

[www.hbrhomes.com](http://www.hbrhomes.com)

### Oakland

\$28,000 Hillmont Dr. Small Lot with water view. Buyer to check with city of Oakland as to buildable status. Approx. 4400 sq. ft. Donnacut 510-814-4826

\$174,888 3W Embarcadero 227. Quaint super private unit on second floor with carpet parking. One bedroom with double doors. Walk to Jack London waterfront. Next to channel "Z". Donnacut 510-814-4826

\$180,000 834 Peralta St. Contractor special 4bd 1ba, 1,400 sq. ft. room, laundry, & roll down doors. Great location! Across from school and near BART. Can be very charming home. Nina 510-814-4836.

\$225,000 930 Pine St. Perfect for live/work. Approx. 1400 sq. ft. 14' ceiling, skylights, & roll down doors. Good location. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$259,000 1427 17th St. Very large home. This house needs work. 1 bath, 2 roughed in shower, 1/2 bath, 2 approx. basements, storage. Concrete foundation, wood upstairs, work downstairs. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$325,000 1366 34th St. OPEN SAT 2-4. Live-work opportunity in loft-style converted Victorian. New foundation. Downstairs legal height. Wonderful raised bed garden. Can be used residential or commercial. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$229,000 1182 14th St. Property is in residential zoning, can be used as commercial. Owner ok. 3+bedrooms, 1 bath, 2 roughed in shower, 1/2 bath, 2 approx. basements, storage. Concrete foundation, wood upstairs, work downstairs. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$250,000 2507 Galileo Pl. Lovely quiet location at Mission & Galileo. 3bd, 2.5ba, 1,400 sq. ft. room, laundry, 1/2 bath, 2 roughed in shower, 1/2 bath, 2 approx. basements, storage. Concrete foundation, wood upstairs, work downstairs. Kathy 510-814-4706

\$259,000 1426 Seagate Dr. Freshly painted, bright unit. 2bd, 2.5ba with inside laundry. Community pool, spa, & clubhouse. Elevators, 1 garage space. Tere 510-814-4840

\$295,000 13851 Seagate Dr. Lovely floor plan, bright sunroom in home. 2bd, 2.5ba. Includes separate room close to manna, son, restaurants. Tere 510-814-4840

\$295,950 14269 Seagate Dr. Freshly painted, bright unit. 2bd, 2.5ba with inside laundry. Community pool, spa, and tennis courts. Tere 510-814-4840

\$295,000 2507 Galileo Pl. Lovely quiet location at Mission & Galileo. 3bd, 2.5ba, 1,400 sq. ft. room, laundry, 1/2 bath, 2 roughed in shower, 1/2 bath, 2 approx. basements, storage. Concrete foundation, wood upstairs, work downstairs. Kathy 510-814-4706

### San Leandro

**PENDING** \$275,000 14400 Seagate Dr. End unit with 2 bd, 1.5 ba, 1,400 sq. ft. room, laundry, 1/2 bath, 2 roughed in shower, 1/2 bath, 2 approx. basements, storage. Concrete foundation, wood upstairs, work downstairs. Kathy 510-814-4706

**PENDING** \$277,000 14380 Outrigger Dr. Single level townhome with inside laundry, and dining area. New carpeting. 2 car garages. Pool, spa, and tennis courts. Tere 510-814-4840

**PENDING** \$279,950 14269 Seagate Dr. Freshly painted, bright unit. 2bd, 2.5ba with inside laundry. Community pool, spa, and tennis courts. Tere 510-814-4840

**PENDING** \$295,000 13851 Seagate Dr. Freshly painted, bright unit. 2bd, 2.5ba with inside laundry. Community pool, spa, and tennis courts. Tere 510-814-4840

**PENDING** \$295,950 14269 Seagate Dr. Freshly painted, bright unit. 2bd, 2.5ba with inside laundry. Community pool, spa, and tennis courts. Tere 510-814-4840

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# Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

## ATTENTION PUBLIC

### Home Buying Help

Don't wait any longer. If you have been thinking about buying your first home, moving up or downsizing attend this seminar. "Home Buying Help: How To Buy Your First Or Next Home" is a free seminar held on Saturday, April 13, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The instructor is Residential Loan Specialist Stan Johnson. The location is the lower level conference room, of the Sanwa Building in San Leandro at the corner of Hesperian Boulevard and East 14th Street. Some of the topics covered are credit, low down payments and grant money. A drawing will be held for a dinner for two at Horatio's Restaurant. Reservations are required. Call the Seminar Hotline at 510-614-2436.

### Home Buyer Basics

Home Buyer Basics is a workshop for first-time homebuyers. Learn how to find a house, protect yourself in the contract and review inspection reports. Credit scoring, loan choices and closing costs are also covered. The class is conducted by Jim Parkhurst of Prudential California Realty and Karen Ward of RE Loan Mortgage. Albany is the location and the date is Saturday, April 13 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is no cost for the class, but reservations are a must. For reservations call the Workshop Hotline at 510-718-2134.

### Museum Lecture on "Our Houses"

The Alameda Museum presents the "Our Houses" lecture series for 2002. Prominent Bay Area authors and historians narrate the slide lectures. The museum is located on Alameda Avenue near Park Street in Alameda. The series is scheduled through June. Thursday, March 28 is the next lecture in the series. Paul Roberts is the presenter of "A Passion for Pattiani", an exploration

of the work of Alameda builder Alfred Washington Pattiani, an early designer of Queen-Anne style houses. The projector slide show will demonstrate Pattiani's life and work. Call 510-748-0796 for information.

### Building Education Center

If you're handy around the house or want to learn how, the Building Education Center in Berkeley is the place for you. BEC provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation. There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends. Topics cover power tools, concrete work, retrofitting, plumbing, interior design, carpentry and solar electricity, to name only a few. You can call the center for class information and cost. Contact Sydney at 510-525-8610 or visit the website at bdc.org.

### REALISTS INFO

Every third Wednesday of the month the Associated Real Property Brokers host the "Dynamic Networking Breakfast". Sponsors are needed for the months of April through December. To sign up call Tyrone Cosey at 510-893-8100.

There's still time. The new Realtist Membership Directories will be released in May. The directory is an networking tool and can be used in listing presentations. Display advertising is offered in the directory. For advertising rates and information contact Georgia Richardson of Richardson Real Estate at 510-569-3499.

### BAR UPDATES

The Berkeley Association of Realtors announces a visit from the California Association of Realtors President Robert Bailey to Region 6 (Alameda County). A luncheon is planned at the Claremont Resort Hotel in Berkeley from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 27. Call Don Clark of the BAR office at 510-848-2439.

Tech Faire 2002 is coming. The technology fair is co-sponsored by BAR. Mark your calendars for May 1 to 3. In the planning stages are seminars and a free trade show. Watch this column for more details.

### OAR EDUCATION

Earn an Accredited Buyer Representative Basic Designation. OAR is offering the ABR Designation course from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday and Friday, April 4 and 5. Among course topics covered are Agency, marketing and risk management. Tuition includes first year REBAC dues and 12 credit hours.

Time to renew! Earn all 45 hours continuing education in only one-half day. The seminar is from 8:30 a.m. to noon, Friday, May 17, at the OAR Building, on Webster Street in Oakland. Topics include Ethics, Agency, Fair Housing and Trust Funds, with legal and marketing updates. Tuition includes home study materials.

Tuition and attendance information for all OAR educational programs should be addressed to Mary Williams of the OAR office at 510-836-3000.

### TASK FORCE GOAL

Last year the Oakland Association of Realtors established a fundraising task force to raise money for the Oral Lee Brown Foundation. The foundation helps Realtor Oral Lee Brown keep her promise to a class of Oakland school children, to put them through college. The task force reached last year's goal of \$18,000. The funds were presented at the annual OAR Inaugural. For the year 2002, the OAR task force set its goal at \$20,000. These funds will help Brown with her renewed commitment to three additional classes Realtor and task force Chairperson Lois Harris of Prudential California Realty encourages everyone to participate in this worthy endeavor. Contact Harris at 510-834-2010.

### 'e-BUYER' COURSE

A new elective course is being offered by the Real Estate Buyer's Agency Council of the National Association of Realtors. The course called "e-Buyer" is designed to help take the next step after mastering computer and Internet basics. REBAC is the awarding body for the ABR (Accredited Buyer's Representative) and ABRM (Accredited Buyer's Representative Manager) designations. To learn more about this six-hour course and ABRM designations call 800-648-6224 or visit the Web site at www.rebac.net.

### WHO'S ON FIRST?

Gus Saar of Old Republic Title invites you to visit their Montclair office. The offices have been renovated and Gus says everything is brand new. Visit Gus or call him at 925-339-3300.

### RENTAL HOUSING

RHANAC presents "Learn How in 2002", an educational series on a variety of issues affecting rental housing. On March 23 there is a three hour class on mold. This course gives an overview of mold and air quality issues. Learn how to investigate and remediate these problems. Classes are held at the Oakland Association of Realtors, on Webster in Oakland. You must pre-register. Contact RHA at 510-893-9873 or via e-mail at RHANAC@pacbell.net.

### MORTGAGE PROFESSIONALS

Attention Mortgage Professionals. Learning more about an industry is as important as being a part of that industry. The California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL) and the California Association of Mortgage Brokers (CAMB) strive to keep mortgage professionals educated and informed. Both have monthly dinner meetings, with guest speakers discussing timely topics. CARL meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month beginning with networking at 6 p.m. Networking also kicks off each CAMB meeting, held on the fourth Thursday of each month. To find out more call these organization's hotlines. The CARL Hotline is 925-746-1847. The CAMB Hotline is 925-275-2663.

### Breakfast Club

Join the lively Wednesday Morning Breakfast Meetings, presented by the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL). Meetings are held every Wednesday at American Title in Walnut Creek on Olympic Boulevard. Start time begins promptly at 8:15 a.m. Breakfast refreshments are served. Need info? Want to recommend a speaker? Call Pat Johnson of TRI Commercial Real Estate Services at 925-296-3300.

Putting on a sermon  
I'd love to let you what  
contact info is used  
company doing!

WHAT'S UP DOG?

I need your info  
column. Fund-raising  
announcements, press  
(company) I want to know  
before the event. Then an  
e-mail to  
me at 510-441-7191/2  
441-7190.

## Publisher's Notice

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any house or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, status or national origin, or an intention to make an limitation or discrimination. "Familial status" includes age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement which is in violation of the law. Our readers are advised that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available opportunity basis.

## Financing Your Dreams YOUR HOME LOAN EXPERT

### "Create The Life You Want"

Mortgage Lending With  
Consideration And Care

### STEVEN WALDEN Thousands Oaks FINANCIAL

1225 Solano Avenue, Albany, CA 94706

## 25 La Salle Avenue, Piedmont



Remodeled and expanded to provide a spacious (approx. 5,000 sq. ft.) convenient floor plan, this home has 6BR/4.5BA, including a separate apartment above the garage. Elegant formal rooms, large recreation room, beautiful kitchen/family room opens to the garden.

### Georgia Cornell

Senior Sales Associate  
bus: (510) 338-1325. res: (510) 654-4302



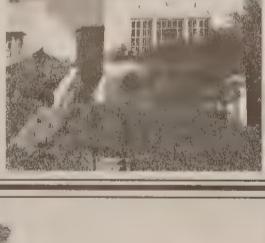
## Montclair Better Homes Realty

Sunday Open House • March 24 2:00 - 4:30 pm  
152 Wildwood Avenue, Piedmont

### NEW LISTING!!

Enjoy quiet, relaxing surroundings when you come home to this light & airy Piedmont beauty. Fireside comfort fills the bright living room from the wood burning fireplace. The kitchen w/adjoining breakfast room & formal dining room, is designed for convenience & practicality as it opens to the magnificently landscaped backyard w/deck area for your outdoor furniture. You'll love the versatility of serving either outdoors or in the spacious dining room. Hardwood floors throughout, a remodeled full bath, & a bright and spacious floorplan are just a few characteristics of this home, walking distance to Wildwood School!

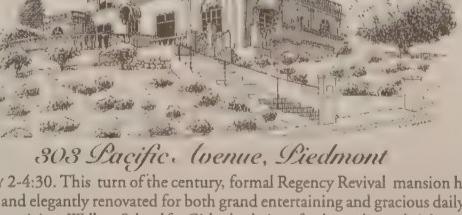
Asking price is available upon request!



**Nahid Nassiri**  
Your Best Move  
(510) 287-5770

For a virtual tour, visit me at  
[www.NahidNassiri.com](http://www.NahidNassiri.com).

## The GRUBB Co. REALTORS



### 308 Pacific Avenue, Piedmont

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This turn of the century, formal Regency Revival mansion has been meticulously and elegantly renovated for both grand entertaining and gracious daily living. Formerly the prestigious Wallace School for Girls, the design of today embraces bright and sunny spaces throughout with sweeping Bay views. Six bedrooms, four and one half baths, wood-paneled family room, spectacular modern kitchen and exquisite architectural detailing throughout.

Offered at \$2,950,000

**NANCY LEHRKIND**  
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/246  
lehrkind@grubbc.com

GRUBBCO.COM

## Open Sunday March 24 2-4:30



### Montclair

1993 Mediterranean located on a quiet street close to village, library and transportation. Offers 3+BR/2+BA including dramatic master bedroom with fireplace, formal dining room, gourmet kitchen and view to the hills from most windows.

Offered at \$775,000

For more information, call  
**Mahin Rajabi**  
510-273-9783



**Dian Hymer, CRS**  
Broker Associate  
#1 Agent Oakland/Piedmont Office  
**510-339-4777**  
Photo tour at [Dianhymer.com](http://Dianhymer.com)

**Now Selling**



2666 CARISBROOK  
Charming Cape Cod  
4+ bedrooms, 2.5 baths  
formal dining, kitchen,  
family, cozy library, 2nd  
floor plan. On a large  
lot in Piedmont w/  
good indoor-outdoor  
and pretty canyon views.

Offered at \$394,900



# Short on funds? Consider a lease option

One way for cash-strapped home buyers to realize their dream

MAN NEWS FEATURES

Often the biggest obstacle to becoming a homeowner is coming up with enough cash for a down payment. One way for cash-strapped home buyers to realize their dream is to lease a home with an option to buy.

The buyer (called an optionee) leases the property from the seller (called an optionor) for a period of time. The lease contract gives the optionee the right to buy the property at the end of the lease period, or earlier by mutual agreement, at a price agreed upon in the contract.

The optionee pays a sum, plus option money, to the seller at the onset of the lease. This money is applied to the purchase price if the option is exercised. If the option money is forfeited to the seller if the optionee doesn't go through with the purchase.

Like any contract, the terms of the lease option are negotiable: the

length of the lease, the amount of the option money, the purchase price and the rent. Sometimes, a seller will agree to credit a portion of the rent toward the purchase, providing an additional incentive for the buyer to go through with the purchase.

Even though the amount of the option money is negotiable, it's usually less than the down payment amount required to purchase an equivalent property.

**HOUSE HUNTING TIP:** If you're buying in a market where home prices are rising, a lease option might be a great deal. But,

you could end up over-paying for a property if market values decline between the date you agree on a purchase price and the date you exercise your option.

There are two parts to a lease option agreement. The first deals with the terms of the lease. The second deals with the terms of the pur-

chase. Be sure to include contract contingencies to protect yourself, such as for financing, inspections, and the sale of another house.

Home buyers who have a house to sell in another location might be able to use a lease option to their advantage. Let's say you need the equity out of your current home in order to buy a new home. If the market is slow in the area you're leaving, it might take some time for your home to sell. A lease option gives you a place to live, time to sell your home and a guaranteed right to buy the property at an agreed price.

Don't be surprised if you don't find a lot of listings offered on a lease option basis. In a seller's market, listings usually sell quickly for all cash. But, lease options do become popular in soft markets when sellers are having a difficult time selling.

Regardless of the market, if the sellers need cash from the sale of their home to purchase another home, a lease option probably won't work. But, you may be able to create a lease option opportunity by searching the "homes for rent" ads for a land-

lord who can be convinced to give you an option to buy.

**THE CLOSING:** Since you forfeit your option money if you don't go through with the purchase, don't option a property that you have no intention of buying. Negotiate a straight lease and save your option money for a home you're serious about buying.

Dian Hymer is author of "Starting Out, the Complete Home Buyer's Guide," Chronicle Books. She is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office. She can be reached at 510-339-4777.

## The GRUBB Co.

2539-2541 Hilgard, Berkeley  
Open Sunday 2-4:30. Fabulous Northside custom duplex, perfect for owner occupants. Views, light and close to U.C. campus and "Gourmet Ghetto."

Offered at \$900,000

TRICIA SWIFT

OFFICE: 510.339.0400/333  
tswift@grubbc.com  
GRUBBCO.COM

Open March 24, 2002 1:00-4:00 pm

### New Listing!



Sophisticated, elegant, stylish and unique. Totally renovated with dramatic ceilings, tons of natural light and quality. Gourmet kitchen, great room, 3 bedroom suites plus loft space, all located on almost 1/2 acre on a tranquil cul-de-sac.

3496 Springhill Ct.

~ Lafayette ~  
Price Upon Request

PACIFIC UNION  
GMAC Real Estate Services

Nancy Rothman

Office (510) 339-2169 ext. 209  
Residence (510) 654-6878  
nrothman@pacunion.com

## Tip of the week: Mildew elimination

BY MORRIS AND JAMES CAREY

FOR AP WEEKLY FEATURES

We have long been passing along this formula to eliminate mildew. You can use it on any washable surface. All you do is add 1 quart of liquid laundry bleach and 1 cup of powdered laundry detergent — less if concentrated — to 3 quarts of warm water.

Scrub the solution onto the mildew-affected area, and be sure to keep it wet until the black mildew turns white (when mildew changes color from black to white, it's dead). Although this is a relatively safe concoction, to be certain of safety, use eye protection, wear rubber gloves and make sure there is plenty of ventilation.

**Saturday, April 6**  
Residential drainage techniques

Due to the overwhelming response to our March Drainage seminar, we have scheduled a second seminar for April. The seminar will be led by Greg Casoro from Casoro Construction. This well-respected, local company specializes in drainage installations and solutions. Greg will review products as well as installation methods at this informative seminar. Be sure to register early!

**Saturday, April 20**

Marvin replacement window clinic

Our popular replacement window clinic offers homeowners and contractors an opportunity to learn about the advantages of replacement windows, tips and techniques in window installations, and the many options available. Marvin professionals will demonstrate how to use replacement windows to present an overview of numerous Marvin Window options.

The GRUBB Co.  
REALTORS

**NEW LISTING**

6226 Chabot Road, Oakland  
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Heart of Rockridge! Light & bright, split level, 3-BR/2BA, breakfast room, formal dining room, built-ins, beautiful details and gardens. Close to BART. Offered at \$775,000

DONNA DEBDARDI  
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/206  
Residence: 510.251.2274  
GRUBBCO.COM

3918 LOS ARABIS  
LAFAYETTE • \$1,475,000

3440 LA CAMPINITA  
LAFAYETTE • \$1,225,000

268 CAPRICORN AVE.  
OAKLAND • \$430,000

These lovely homes were sold during the 1st Quarter of 2002 by Kelly Deal.

Please call Kelly for a free estimate of value of your home.

Kelly Deal  
510-484-4300

ALAIN PINEL  
CORNER

New Listing • Ready To Show Sunday 3/24 • Open 1-4 PM

### Magnificent Traditional

1133 Estates Drive, Lafayette

Situated on 1+ AC of beautifully landscaped property with fully fenced backyard with lush lawns, pool and pool house. There are 4 lg. bdrms. & 4.5 baths, (one bedroom is now set up as a fabulous Children's playroom w/built-in storage) approx. 4,373 SF, large gourmet kitchen with built-in eating nook, adjoining expansive fam. rm. with fp. Elegant liv. rm. and DR with lovely views. Gleaming HW floors thru most of home. So many luxury amenities, must see this beautiful home to fully appreciate.

\$2,895,000



JERILYN BABINGTON  
COLDWELL BANKER  
(510) 547-1615 residence  
(510) 421-3500 mobile



DIAN HYMER

House Hunting

lord who can be convinced to give you an option to buy.

**THE CLOSING:** Since you forfeit your option money if you don't go through with the purchase, don't option a property that you have no intention of buying. Negotiate a straight lease and save your option money for a home you're serious about buying.

Dian Hymer is author of "Starting Out, the Complete Home Buyer's Guide," Chronicle Books. She is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office. She can be reached at 510-339-4777.

Open March 24, 2002 1:00-4:00 pm

### New Listing!



Sophisticated, elegant, stylish and unique. Totally renovated with dramatic ceilings, tons of natural light and quality. Gourmet kitchen, great room, 3 bedroom suites plus loft space, all located on almost 1/2 acre on a tranquil cul-de-sac.

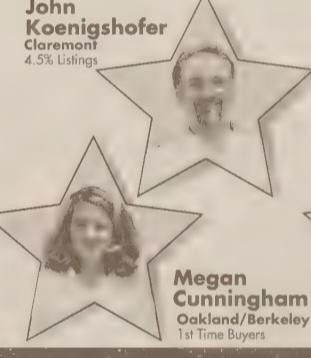
3496 Springhill Ct.

~ Lafayette ~  
Price Upon Request

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1.800.344.3741 • www.eri-bhg.com



Carol A. Warren Company  
REAL ESTATE BROKERAGE

Open Sunday 2:00pm - 4:30pm

## First Showing! 314 Wildwood Avenue



Carol Warren, Broker  
Phone: (510) 652-4800  
Fax: (510) 652-1313  
E-Mail: cawcompany@earthlink.net

Piedmont Spanish Mission Revival  
Centrally located, a stone's throw from Wildwood School and Piedmont Park, this gracious family home is pleasantly private and unique. Enter into a beamed foyer, then turn left into a formal living room bathed in sunlight with fireplace and alcove library, or right, enter a stunning dining room with beautifully stenciled beams, wood detail including a built-in china cabinet. The sun-drenched breakfast room welcomes you and directs you to cook's delight kitchen replete with butler's pantry. As you wander through the common areas, four generous bedrooms, bonus room and three beautifully appointed bathrooms, notice the architectural details, leaded glass, hand rubbed hardwoods and the luxury of space and quiet. Don't miss the fanciful balcony, large, secluded deck and attention to detail.

Offered at \$1,050,000

## HOME, INCOME, AND BOAT DOCK



3233-3235 Fernside Blvd.  
Alameda

WELLS BENNETT  
REALTORS



STAN & SHARON HAMMOND  
(510) 531-7000 ext. 246

Offered at: \$750,000

Spanish Mediterranean duplex with enormous architectural charm. Two bedroom, two bath and one bedroom, one bath units with wood trim, formal dining room, breakfast rooms, laundry, garages, plus deep water boat dock.

**WEEKLY SALES****ALAMEDA**

25 Barry Ct - \$515,000  
 141 Basinside Wy - \$610,000  
 1020 Buena Vista Av - \$570,000  
 1524 Central Av - \$550,000  
 1630 Foley St - \$260,000  
 2990 Johnson Av - \$410,000  
 2426 Lincoln Av #F - \$255,000  
 1033 Lincoln St - \$525,000  
 1030 Melrose Av - \$385,500  
 402 Tideway Dr - \$550,000  
 1221 Union St - \$300,000  
 2840 Washington St - \$130,000

**ALBANY**

1066 Curtis St - \$450,000  
 535 Pierce St #2102 - \$300,000

**BERKELEY**

2018 9th St #F - \$215,000  
 1635 9th St - \$114,000  
 1807 Blake St - \$435,000  
 1735 California St - \$270,000  
 1529 Carlton St - \$390,000  
 841 Creston Rd - \$65,000  
 3048 Deakin St - \$619,000  
 1316 Henry St - \$496,500

**EL CERRITO**

1073 Arlington Bl - \$1,731,000  
 139 Ashbury Av - \$452,000

16 Carmel Av - \$405,000  
 837 Lexington Av - \$339,000

**EL SOBRANTE**

305 Del Valle Cr - \$190,000  
 1044 Jasmine Ct - \$273,000

**EMERYVILLE**

4 Captain Dr #405 - \$200,000  
 8 Commodore #C460 - \$241,000  
 4 Commodore #D443 - \$236,000

**OAKLAND**

1901 107th Av - \$246,500  
 1627 11th St - \$265,000  
 1703 19th Av - \$430,000  
 1508 1st Av - \$752,000  
 3841 35th Av - \$200,000  
 201 4th St #303 - \$301,000  
 201 4th St #501 - \$365,000  
 201 4th St #511 - \$554,000  
 2501 66th Av - \$240,000  
 2469 67th Av - \$167,000  
 330 6th St #5B - \$176,000  
 1006 90th Av - \$200,000  
 1218 92nd Av - \$191,000  
 1329 94th Av - \$200,000  
 710 Alleen St - \$362,000  
 6922 Arthur St - \$250,000  
 2465 Bartlett St - \$290,000  
 565 Bellevue #1504 - \$301,000  
 3047 Berlin Wy - \$288,000

4724 Brookdale Av - \$325,000  
 2317 Bywood Dr - \$662,500  
 200 Caldecott #114 - \$251,000

720 C. Oaks #C - \$225,000  
 5736 Chelton Dr - \$870,000  
 2324 Coolidge Av - \$295,000  
 6510 Farallon Wy - \$466,000  
 4333 Fleming Av - \$287,500  
 9874 Golf Links Rd - \$345,000  
 433 Hale Av - \$225,000  
 8141 Idlewood St - \$260,000  
 1721 Indian Wy - \$525,000  
 2824 Kingsland Av - \$355,000  
 5915 La Salle Av - \$656,000  
 427 Lagunitas #307 - \$220,000

658 33rd St - \$235,000  
 519 3rd St - \$188,000  
 259 4th St - \$270,000  
 813 Banks Dr - \$180,000  
 6135 Bernhard Av - \$425,000  
 6317 Kensington Av - \$260,000  
 1361 Mariposa St - \$238,500  
 1709 Ohio Av - \$200,000  
 3704 Painted Pony - \$367,000  
 3011 Phillips Ct - \$325,000  
 3400 Roosevelt Av - \$219,500  
 6121 Sutter Av - \$269,000

**SAN LEANDRO**

1509 138th Av - \$220,500  
 1278 144th Av - \$250,000  
 1683 163rd Av - \$260,000  
 525 Dowling Bl - \$400,000  
 281 Farrelly Dr - \$299,000  
 101 Georgia Wy - \$369,000  
 62 Georgia Wy - \$345,000  
 458 Juana Av - \$165,000  
 360 Leo Av - \$310,000  
 16269 Liberty St - \$250,000  
 14432 Locust St - \$361,000  
 725 Matoza Ln - \$506,000  
 14248 Outrigger Dr - \$327,000  
 335 Pershing Dr - \$292,000  
 16349 Saratoga St - \$225,000  
 14945 Saturn Dr - \$268,000  
 353 West Juana Av - \$260,000  
 16645 Winding Bl - \$390,000

**RICHMOND**

510 18th St - \$247,000  
 433 33rd St - \$250,000

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510 18th St - \$247,000  
 433 33rd St - \$250,000

**RICHMOND**

510 18th St - \$247,000  
 433 33rd St - \$250,000

**THORNWALL Properties**

Innovative, Caring Professionals



**\$389,500**

Berkeley Townhouse-style Condo!  
 3 bedrooms/3 baths! New kitchen with granite counters!

Deep private yard! Off-street parking!

510 • 848 • 1950  
[www.thornwallproperties.com](http://www.thornwallproperties.com)

Serving  
the  
East  
Bay  
since  
1984

**BAY AREA PROPERTIES****300 Gravatt Drive, Claremont Hills****Last of the Fabulous Building Sites!**

Some may say I'm a dreamer...this property could make those dreams come true. Two great lots on a knoll with a huge flat area (croquet?). The views span the bay, the sunsets feed the soul. Neighborhood houses have sold for \$2M+. Close to highways, shopping and BART. Available separate (\$650,000 each) or together for \$1,300,000.

Diana Yonkouski • **510.597.0292**

[www.diana-connect.com](http://www.diana-connect.com)

or Warwick May • **510.597.0291**

[www.warwickmay.com](http://www.warwickmay.com)

**By the numbers****ALAMEDA**

TOTAL SALES: 12  
 LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000  
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$710,000  
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$462,500  
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$421,708

**ALBANY**

TOTAL SALES: 2  
 LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000  
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$450,000  
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$375,000  
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$375,000

**BERKELEY**

TOTAL SALES: 8  
 LOWEST PRICE: \$114,000  
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$619,000  
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$412,500  
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$388,063

**EL CERRITO**

TOTAL SALES: 4  
 LOWEST PRICE: \$339,000  
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,731,000  
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$428,500  
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$731,750

**EL SOBRANTE**

TOTAL SALES: 2  
 LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000  
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$710,000  
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$462,500  
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$421,708

**EMERYVILLE**

TOTAL SALES: 3  
 LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000  
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$710,000  
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$462,500  
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$421,708

**OAKLAND**

TOTAL SALES: 1  
 LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000  
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$710,000  
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$462,500  
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$421,708

**RICHMOND**

TOTAL SALES: 1  
 LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000  
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$710,000  
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$462,500  
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$421,708

**SAN LEANDRO**

TOTAL SALES: 1  
 LOWEST PRICE: \$130,000  
 HIGHEST PRICE: \$710,000  
 MEDIAN PRICE: \$462,500  
 AVERAGE PRICE: \$421,708

**OAKLAND CHINA HILL**

**JUST LISTED**  
**291 ATLAS AVE**  
 3 BEDS/BATH  
 1 BED/1 BATH COTTAGE  
 \$489,000

**So many possibilities!**

KEIKO McDONAH

[www.Realtor4info.com](http://www.Realtor4info.com)

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E-mail:

[Keiko@Realtor4info.com](mailto:Keiko@Realtor4info.com)

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These two great  
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in Oakland's Chinatown.  
Just a few blocks  
Lake Merritt, you  
offer a live well  
as well as an acre.  
Please give us  
can explore the

**Madalyn Mitchell**  
REALTOR

510-986-9517

Let me help you sell  
home. I have over 10  
experience as a designer  
can help you sell by  
maximizing your home's  
appeal to potential buyers.  
I offer my staging services  
FREE when you list your home.

Call or e-mail me for  
more information.

 Prudential California

**The GRUBB Co.****450 Arlington Avenue, Berkeley**

Open Sunday 2-4:30. Tucked below Arlington Ave. Bright & airy with "great room" ideal for entertaining. 3BR/2BA & approved plans for addition. Verdant canyon view to the Bay. Great location near parks, shops & transportation.

Offered at \$599,000

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OF  
HOMES & APARTMENTS**

**528-9292**

DAVID RATOOSH / KEITH CARROLL - BROKERS

**BACK ON THE MARKET**

2805 Stanton Street, Berkeley



Open Sunday 2-4:30 P.M.

Affordable and pristine Berkeley Bungalow features a porch with brick fireplace, formal dining room with built-in hutch, pass thru window, eat-in kitchen, 2 bedrooms, one bath, living room and detached garage. Gorgeous hardwood floors throughout. Appliances included. Electronic lift to rear back porch makes this unit handicapped accessible. Low maintenance fenced backyard and beautiful landscaped front yard.

Offered at \$599,000

Barbara Hopper

Prudential California Realty

2 Tunnel Road, Berkeley 94705

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**Virtual Tour:** [www.pruweb.com/barbarahopper](http://www.pruweb.com/barbarahopper)

**Glass/Sabine**  
Your Fine Home Specialists

Just Listed

1021 LEO WAY



Privacy and serenity await you in this delightful two story home. Among the many of its fine attributes are dramatic views, chef's kitchen, elegant library, grand master suite & private entrance.

4 plus bedrooms, 3 baths...price \$799,000

You are cordially invited to our open house Sunday, March 24th, 2 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

We invite you to visit us at our website at [www.glass-sabine.com](http://www.glass-sabine.com)



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# Hopping along the bunny trail

BY BOBBIE REID  
CORRESPONDENT

The Easter Bunny is making a stop, as he hops along the trail. On Saturday, March

30, from noon to 3 p.m., you can visit with the big bunny at Independent Real Estate Brokers.

IREB's corporate office is at 860 E. Lewelling Boulevard in Hay-

ward. Free photos will be available with the Bunny. Additionally, there are treats for the children. The annual visit with the Easter Bunny day is a 20-year tradition at IREB. The custom began in 1982 and many people take advantage of this photo opportunity year after year.

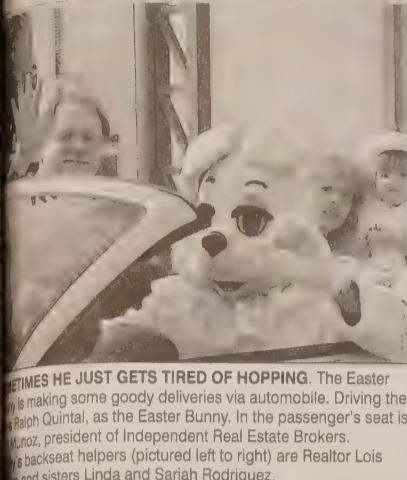
"We love presenting this event each year," said Bob Munoz, IREB's corporate president.

"Our crew has as much fun doing this as the children who attend. Our clients, neighbors and even people driving by stop in." Everyone is welcome to attend. Independent Real Estate Bro-

'We love presenting this event each year. Our crew has as much fun doing this as the children who attend. Our clients, neighbors and even people driving by stop in.'

IREB corporate president Bob Munoz.

kers has 45 offices throughout California and the Bay Area, including Alameda and Oakland. For more Bunny information or directions call project coordinator Jackie Ruiz at 510-276-7900.



SOMETIMES HE JUST GETS TIRED OF HOPPING. The Easter Bunny is making some goody deliveries via automobile. Driving the car is Ralph Quintal, as the Easter Bunny. In the passenger's seat is Munoz, president of Independent Real Estate Brokers. In the backseat helpers (pictured left to right) are Realtor Lois and sisters Linda and Sarah Rodriguez.

## Enchanting Country Estate

**804 Acalanes Road, Lafayette**  
located on approx. 2.46 acres of beautifully landscaped property covered in century old trees. This newly crafted home has approx. 3,000 sq. ft. with 5 spacious bedrooms and 3 1/2 luxurious baths. The gourmet kitchen has an expansive family room with fireplace adjoining. A media/bonus room has approx. 600 sq. ft. and is wired for a projection screen and speakers. There is a heated tennis court. A pool with a pool house is ready for renovation. This beautifully crafted home has many luxurious amenities, it must be seen to be appreciated.

\$3,659,000

## New Listing



**JERILYN BABINGTON**  
**COLDWELL BANKER**  
**(510) 547-1615 residence**  
**(510) 421-3500 mobile**



## Open Sunday

**ALAREMONT \$1,495,000**  
**11 ALVARADO RD. (Open 2-4)**

New Price! Custom built-re-creation of original 1922 Colonial home. Exceptional quality & detailing. 4BR/3BA, fireplaces, SF & GG views, double lot & garage. Leslie Easterday x1363



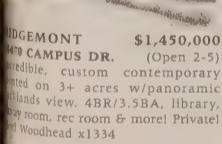
**MONTCLAIR \$1,475,000**  
**51 VIRGO RD. (Open 2-4:30)**

Wonderful Mediterranean w/fabulous SE. View Gate, Bay Bridge view. Built by Jeff

Strong, lots of built-ins & lots of extras.

4.5BA, 3 fireplaces, fully equipped gym.

Leslie Heath x1357



**PUDGEMONT \$1,450,000**  
**5470 CAMPUS DR. (Open 2-5)**

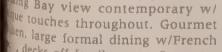
Incredible, custom contemporary

located on 3+ acres w/panoramic

views. 4BR/3.5BA, library,

family room, rec room & more. Private

pool. Woodhead x1334



**OAKLAND HILLS \$1,110,000**  
**101 TUNNEL RD. (Open 2-4:30)**

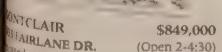
Stunning new 3-BR/2.5BA contempo-

Mediterranean designed by

Master Richard Janzen. Chef's

wk/fam rm combo, & beautiful

courtyard. Dee Knowland x1318.



**MONTCLAIR \$899,000**

**100 BROADWAY TERR. (Open 2-4:30)**

Gated Bay view contemporary w/

large formal dining w/French

decks off family room & master

bedroom. 3+BR/2.5BA. Roselle

x1324



**MONTCLAIR \$849,000**

**101 FAIRLANE DR. (Open 2-4:30)**

located on just over an acre w/pano-

views. 4BR/2.5BA. Family rm &

suite open to private patio won-

derful outdoor dining or relaxing.

to the Village. Nancy Moore x1302



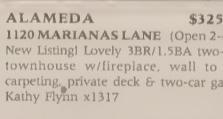
# PACIFIC UNION

510.339.6460  
www.pacunion.com

## Open Sunday



## Open Sunday



## By Appointment



## By Appointment



**MONTCLAIR \$849,000**

Adorable & charming 4 yr old traditional.

4BR/2.5BA, fantastic & graceful floorplan,

level-out play area. Fabulous location.

Nancy Moore x1302

**NORTH BERKELEY \$750,000**

Fabulous light filled 4BR/4BA home with

2nd unit. Panoramic Bay views, great floor

plan, easy access to public transportation &

parks. Anne Van Dyke x1399

**PIEDMONT \$439,000**

Charming 2BR/1BA craftsman home

Airy, modern kitchen/family room,

spectacular South Bay view. Structural

fixer-upper. Debi Fitzgerald x1306

**EMERYVILLE \$2,600,000**

Elegant & architectural two-story condo

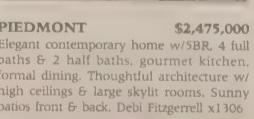
in exciting Emeryville warehouse complex.

Sun filled spaces, loft bedroom,

handsome kitchen & bath, secure garage.

Anne Van Dyke x1399

## Coming Soon



**PIEDMONT \$2,475,000**

Elegant contemporary home w/5B, 4 full

baths & 2 half baths, gourmet kitchen,

formal dining. Thoughtful architecture w/

high ceilings & large skylit rooms. Sunny

patios front & back. Debi Fitzgerald x1306

**MONTCLAIR \$629,000**

Charming 1937 expanded & remodeled cot-

tage w/wonderful level yard areas & bay

views. 3BR/2BA including master suite w/

office & rumpus room. Donna Costella x1355

**BERKELEY \$395,000**

Ocean View charmer! Approx. 1641 sq. ft.

3BR/2BA plus family room. Level yard. Close

to 4th Street shops. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

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The GRUBB Co.



3149 Arizona Street, Oakland

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This charming traditional features 2BR/1.5BA & is located in the wonderful Laurel district. This exceptional home has refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen, fireplace in the living room, detached garage & tranquil garden with fruit trees.

Offered at \$399,000

ANNE FESTE

OFFICE: 510.339.0400/371  
Cell: 510.757.4787  
GRUBBCO.COM

The GRUBB Co.  
REALTORS



5940 Chabot Crest, Rockridge

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Beautiful Rockridge home! Light-filled and immaculate! There are three bedrooms & three bathrooms, two extra plus rooms, double garage, remodeled kitchen that opens to deck and garden. Covered Rockridge location that boasts easy access to shops, BART & freeway.

Offered at \$660,000

SUSIE SCHEVILL

OFFICE: 510.339.0400/343  
sschevill@grubbc.com  
GRUBBCO.COM

## Open Sunday

## Open Sunday

**ALAMEDA \$325,000**  
**1120 MARIANAS LANE (Open 2-4:30)**

New Listing! Lovely 3BR/1.5BA two-story townhouse w/fireplace, wall to wall carpeting, private deck & two-car garage.

Kathy Flynn x1317

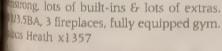


**PIEDMONT AVE. \$319,000**  
**3945 HARRISON ST. #22 (Open 2-4:30)**

New Listing! Light, bright corner unit w/walls of glass. Tranquil tree views. 2BR/2

updated baths, formal dining, pristine condition.

Robyn Mohr x1310



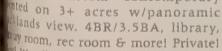
**OAKLAND \$310,000**  
**3734 McCLELLAND ST. (Open 2-4:30)**

Charming 2BR/1BA home w/patio & large

fenced yard. Fireplace in living rm. FDR,

attached garage. On 1-block long street near

Hwy 13 & 580. Ann Nichols x1319



**PIEDMONT \$3,350,000**

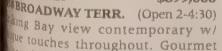
Award-winning design on approx. 1/2 acre

in prime location. Extraordinary home w/

6+BR/4.5BA, gourmet kitchen, family room &

much more. Rich architectural detail &

quality. Georgia Cornell x1325



**PIEDMONT \$439,000**

Charming 2BR/1BA craftsman home

Airy, modern kitchen/family room,

spectacular South Bay view. Structural

fixer-upper. Debi Fitzgerald x1306



**EMERYVILLE \$2,600,000**

Elegant & architectural two-story condo

in exciting Emeryville warehouse complex.

Sun filled spaces, loft bedroom,

handsome kitchen & bath, secure garage.

Anne Van Dyke x1399



**PIEDMONT \$2,475,000**

Elegant contemporary home w/5B, 4 full

baths & 2 half baths, gourmet kitchen,

formal dining. Thoughtful architecture w/

high ceilings & large skylit rooms. Sunny

patios front & back. Debi Fitzgerald x1306



**PIEDMONT \$859,000**

Gorgeous 6 yr old 3912+/- sq. ft. contempor-

ary. Spacious formal living & dining rms.

Chef's kit/fam rm combo. 4BR suites/4+BA.

3 fireplaces, 3 terraces w/lush canyon vistas.

Jeffrey Himmel x1307



**BERKELEY \$395,000**

Ocean View charmer! Approx. 1641 sq. ft.

3BR/2BA plus family room. Level yard. Close

to 4th Street shops. Jeffrey Himmel x1307



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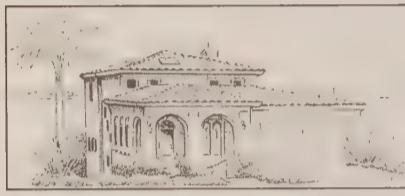


**Edith Marcus**

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BETTER HOMES REALTY  
(510) 339-8400

## Upper Rockridge Treasure



Open Sunday 2-4:30  
4921 Proctor Avenue

Spanish Mediterranean in exclusive upper Rockridge with dramatic entry and sweeping Bay views.

**\$1,239,000**

**Heidi Marchesotti**  
Phone: (510) 339-9290



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*Build Your Dream Home*

### SPECTACULAR VIEW LOT

Spectacular Bay & SF views from this one of a kind site on a quiet cul-de-sac surrounded by open space. 17,702 sq. ft. includes preliminary architect Elizabeth Dickson

PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR LOT 1  
Double upslope lot with potential. Superb views on private road off Somerset Rd. Two lots also available. Great opportunity for custom home. Debra J. Dryden

### OAKLAND/BERKELEY LOT

Downslope lot with Bay view on private rd with 2 other new homes sold for over \$1.1M. Approx. 10,000 sq. ft. Great Opportunity Debra J. Dryden

# SOLD! SOLD!

## RECENT TRANSACTIONS IN THE REAL ESTATE MARKET

### ALBANY

830 Masonic

LP: \$319,000

SP: \$360,000

2 BR, 1 BA, 900 sq. ft.



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10 DAYS!**

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John Stasky (510) 525-8800

### ALAMO

Time on the  
market: 61 Days

2490 Lunada Ln.

Four bedrooms, 3 baths,  
3123 square feet  
Asking: \$1,100,000. Selling: \$1,000,000

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Ron Pratt

### BERKELEY

1316 Henry, Berkeley

LP: \$439,000 SP: \$496,000

### ALBANY

635 Adams, Albany LP: \$495,000 SP: \$550,000

520 Pomona, Albany LP: \$389,000 SP: \$420,000

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**(510) 527-5500**

### SOLD THIS MONDAY

by Tim Cannon  
Broker

BERKELEY/HOL

REAL ESTATE & INVESTMENT

### WANTED: Homes for Sale

Homes are in demand in this market. Is the time to sell! Realtors, prove to our readers that you are a successful, active professional.

This new section will be featured weekly in Hills Newspapers and West County Times. To be included, please contact your ad rep or sales manager.

Emily (510) 262-2755

# WELLS & BENNETT 531-7000 REALTORS

## OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30



3764 VIA GRANADA

**\$775,000**

Marvelous one-level rancher within walking distance to Campolindo High. Easy freeway access with close public transportation. Enjoy 4+BD/3.5BA, family room, FDR, living room w/fireplace and spacious bonus room. Double garage w/interior access. Must see! Carol Robbiano 925-746-6415

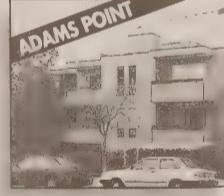


4168 EASTLAKE AVENUE

**\$495,000**

New Listing! Enjoy superb Bay and City views from this handsome 3/2 home located in the Redwood Heights. Excellent floor plan and lovely art deco details add to the character of this architecturally very attractive home. Close to Hwy. 13 & Hwy. 580.

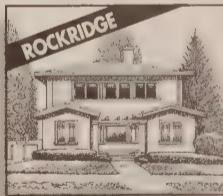
Heidi Tuggle 531-7000 x286  
or 531-4554



407 ORANGE STREET

1/1 900+ sq. ft. 2nd fl. living room, kitchen, wall to wall carpet, set-up

Patsy Butler 531-7000



5515 CARLTON STREET

**\$725,000**

Stately 1916 Prairie-Craftsmen fusion. Living room, formal dining room, library with original wood paneling and details. Phone closet with stained glass door. Breakfast room. Five bedrooms. A classic home for family and entertaining. Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246



555 10TH STREET #409

**\$349,000**

Wonderful 2BD/2BA condo in downtown, loft area for office or den, top floor unit in 1998 building, living room w/20' ceiling, walk to BART, restaurants, & shopping!

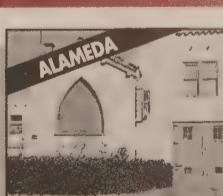
Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228  
or 436-4100



651 OAKLAND AVENUE

Condo - 1BD/1BA - deck and patio - great transportation, near BART and Piedmont Ave. and shopping

Kevin Kennedy 531-7000



HOME, INCOME, & BOAT DOCK

**\$750,000**

Spanish Mediterranean duplex with enormous architectural charm. Two bedroom, two bath and one bedroom, one bath units with wood trim, FDR, breakfast rooms, laundry, garages, plus deep water boat dock.

Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246  
or 839-5846

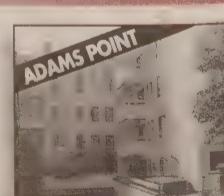


VIBRANT AND STYLISH LOFT

**\$299,000**

Tower loft project: Northeast light, slate and wood bath with Jacuzzi tub, mezzanine bedroom, warm colors, kitchen with island, quiet cool!

Stan Hammond 531-7000 x246



IDEAL LOCATION

2.2 Wonderful 1bd/1ba w/ lovely unit w/ patio. Great for relaxing. New bu

Patsy Butler 531-7000

## TALK ABOUT LOCATION! - SOMMERSET RD. OAKLAND

**\$245K-\$285K**

2 contiguous lots within Oakland, located about 200 feet out of the city of Piedmont. Homes in this area sell a million to 2 million. Bay View too!

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 654-6461

**1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND  
531-7000**

## LAND

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Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235 or 654-6461

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# Oakland Realtors set new goals

OAKLAND ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS  
OAKLAND — The Oakland Association of Realtors has reconvened its Oral Lee Brown fund-raising task force. Last year the group met its goal by raising \$18,000 to support the Oral Lee Brown Foundation, and the funds were presented at the annual OAR officer installation banquet.

The foundation was established by Realtor Oral Lee Brown, who promised a first-grade class of disadvantaged pupils that if they worked hard and stayed in school she would pay their way through college. Nineteen of the original 23 will soon be college graduates.

Recently, Oral Lee made the same commitment to three more groups of 20 students each, a first-

"It's so rewarding to give regularly to a truly deserving cause."

Task force chairperson Lois Harris

grade class, a fifth-grade class and a ninth-grade class. The Oakland Association of Realtors has also made a commitment to help.

For the year 2002 the OAR task force has set its goal at \$20,000, plans to encourage the Realtors to come through again for Oral Lee's kids.

Donations have been made by Realtors through on-going contributions from commissions at the close of each escrow, and from many one-time donations.

Realtor Lois Harris, of Prudential California Realty says, "It's so rewarding to give regularly to a truly deserving cause."

OAR has received support from neighboring associations and hopes to benefit from their generosity again this year.

Contact Lois Harris, OLBF Task Force Chairperson, Oakland Association of Realtors, 1528 Webster St. in Oakland, or call Harris at 510-834-2010.

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## ★Indicates Homes Being Held Open

### OAKLAND/PIEDMONT

\* Open Sunday \$1,295,000  
5561 Bacon Rd. Sophisticated contemporary w/S.F. views, all one level, magnificent indoor pool, 1 acre lot, 4 BR & 3.5 BA. Updated kit.

Glass/Sabine  
(510) 428-0900

\* Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,239,000  
4921 Proctor Ave. Spanish Mediterranean 4 BR/3.5 BA has dramatic entry & sweeping bay views!

Heidi Marchesotti  
(510) 339-9290



\* Open Sunday 2-4:30! \$799,000  
1021 Leo Way. Privacy & Serenity Awaits. Sunny contemporary w/4 BR & 3 BA, chef's kitchen, elegant library, master suite w/Jacuzzi & sauna.

Glass/Sabine  
(510) 428-0900

\* Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$719,000  
1027 Ashmont Avenue. Normandy fixer w/4 BR, 3 BA, has endless potential, in great location.

Davidotero.com  
(510) 339-9290

Redwood Heights! \$639,000  
Large home w/5 BR, 3.5 BA. New paint, carpets, kitchen. Great landscaping. Shows very well!

Sovanna Yorn  
(510) 527-9800

Upper Rockridge Gem! \$549,000  
New listing! Quality, light, charm! Gorgeous garden off remodeled kitchen. Bonus room, 2/1.

Julie Lehman  
(510) 845-0211

A Fabulous Co-op! \$385,000  
Lake Merritt elegance in move-in condition, in prestigious bldg. 4608 Sq. ft., storage, 24 hr. sec. w/cable, heat.

Caroline Slotemaker de Bruine  
(510) 287-8856

\* Open Sunday 2-4:30 \$349,000  
10274 - 62nd St. Well cared for duplex. Ea. 1/1 w/private garden on lg. level lot.

Kurt Meyer  
(510) 339-9290

ALAMEDA 510-337-8670 ALCYAN 510-524-2526 BERKELEY 510-845-0200 BERKELEY NORTH 510-849-3711 CLAREMONT 510-845-0211

EL CERRITO 510-527-9800 GRAND LAKE 510-834-2010 KENSINGTON 510-526-5143 MONTCLAIR 510-339-9290 PIEMONTE 510-428-0900

Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B13.

The GRUBB Co.

Recently Sold in Crocker Highlands



1039 Clarendon Crescent  
Originally offered at \$795,000  
Represented the Buyers

1072 Hubert Road  
Originally offered at \$795,000  
Represented the Sellers



1087 Hubert Road  
Originally offered at \$849,000  
Represented the Buyers

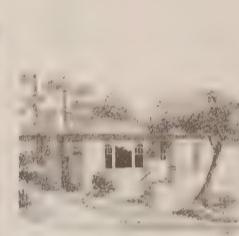
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## MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE

When it's your move...



POINT RICHMOND. 400 Western Drive \$1,095,000

RICHMOND. 2560 Duke Avenue \$323,500

Spectacular Sunsets! Sophisticated 4BR, 3BA contemporary beauty only 30 mins. from SF. Golden Gate & City views from most rooms and decks. Gourmet kitchen, FDR, lovely living room, master ste. w/deck, walk-in closet, weight rm., more. Walk to Big back yard w/patio, deck, landscaped garden.

Open Sun 2-4 Olga Stepanyan (510) 559-2921

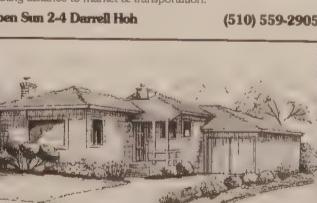


RICHMOND ANNEX. 5319 Carl Avenue \$275,000

BERKELEY. 551 Neilson St. \$499,000

Affordable 2BR home with many new details. Upgraded kitchen & bath, beautiful hardwood floors, new dual pane windows, new roof, new water heater, new garage door. Huge level fenced back yard, walking distance to market & transportation.

Open Sun 1-5 Terry Pedersen (510) 527-2700 x36



EL CERRITO. 6608 Portola Drive \$349,000

OAKLAND. 842 Creed Road \$569,000

A Gardener's Delight! Beautifully appointed traditional filled with natural sunlight. Built circa 1946 on a large level lot w/south & west exposures. Features two bedrooms plus a "garden room", oak floors, central heat, vintage kitchen w/corner window, attached garage, & ample storage.

Open Sun 2-4 Kathie Berg (510) 527-2700 x34 Open Sun 2-4:30 Luanne Warner (510) 527-2700 x29

Open Sun 2-4:30 Luanne Warner (510) 527-2700 x29

Open Sun 2-4:30 Luanne Warner (510) 527-2700 x29

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Copy & Artwork: <b>TUESDAY, 12 Noon</b>	Open Home Guide: <b>WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon</b>

*Open Sunday, March 24, 2-4:30pm  
NEW LISTING!*

*6191 Virgo Road, Oakland*

Wonderful Mediterranean with  
fabulous San Francisco, Golden Gate,  
Bay Bridge view. Built by Jeff  
Armstrong, lots of built-ins, and lots of extras.  
3BR/2.5BA plus master suite with fireplace  
& sitting room, formal dining room, living &  
family rooms with fireplaces, library and  
fully equipped gym.

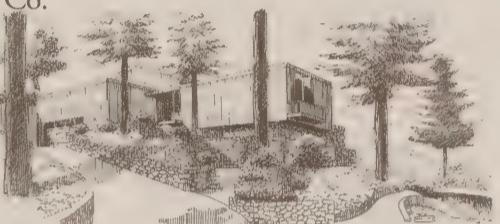


*Offered at \$1,475,000*

**Francis Heath**  
Broker Associate . (510) 338-1357

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*32 Mall Court, Piedmont Pines*

COMING SOON. An exquisite and private Piedmont Pines Retreat. A natural stream, enhanced to include waterfalls, tranquil ponds and sitting areas, is showcased through walls of glass in this extraordinary 4++ bedroom residence.

*Price Upon Request*



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**2330 VINE STREET**



Built with astounding quality in 1930 as a performance studio, this dramatic one-bedroom home features exquisite architectural details, rich woodwork and an unbelievably grand leaded glass window and a formal garden.

\$650,000

OPEN SUNDAY MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup> 2-5 PM

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**LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT THE BAY AREA**

House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first

**The GRUBB Co.**  
REALTORS  
6272 Crown Avenue, Montclair  
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Magical Montclair retreat on a fabulous, over-sized wooded lot. Cozy living room with stone fireplace, formal dining room. State of the art, recently remodeled eat-in kitchen with spacious adjacent family room. 3BR/3BA. Decks & level rear garden with secluded, redwood hot tub. Offered at \$639,000.  
**KAREN STARR**  
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/224  
GRUBBCO.COM

**Jelleher & Lindsey, Inc.**  
REALTORS  
521-8181 523-1010

**OAKLAND**  
OPEN SUNDAY 1-5, 291 ATHOL AVE.  
AND HOME. Walk, bedrooms,  
and a few blocks from Lake Merritt.  
You qualify for a  
mortgage.  
Offered at \$489,000.  
info.com, Kelko McDonah,  
522-4449.

**SHAW RD. DESIRABLE LOWER**  
CHARLESTON. Charming brown shingle on  
private lot. Pool, workshop, long  
detached garage. 2 bedrooms,  
1 bath. First time on market in 50  
years. \$449,000. Ann Bracci,  
528-1807.

**GARFIELD ST. LOWER**  
CHARLESTON. Totally renovated, move-in  
ready. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, approx.  
1,000 sq ft. New paint, new carpets, new  
kitchen. New bath. Bids reviewed  
by 2/26/02 \$268,000. Don Patterson,  
528-1117.

**MANDARIN, CANTONESE AND ENGLISH**  
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## HOMES OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH, 2002



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Berkeley, CA 94705  
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New Listing!

637-63rd Street, Oakland  
\$349,000 Open 2-4:30 pm



New Listing!

443 65th, Rockridge  
\$439,000 Open 2-4 pm

— OPEN 2-4 PM —

**RICHMOND**  
5/2.5 - 170 Malcolm \$279,900

**RICHMOND N&E**  
2/2 - 757-36th \$244,500

**ALBANY**

2/2 - 465 Jackson \$339,000

**EL CERRITO**

2/2 - 1725 Liberty \$235,000

3/2 - 1640 Julian \$495,000

**ROCKRIDGE**

Duplex - 5779 Ayala \$379,000

— OPEN 2-4:30 PM —

**OAKLAND**

3425 Brunell \$849,000

**PLEASANT HILL**

4/2 - 1791 Milburn \$469,000

— OPEN 1-4 PM —

**KENSINGTON**

4/3 - 44 Kingston \$839,000



New Listing!

1888 San Lorenzo, Berkeley  
\$795,000 Open 2-4:30 pm



New Listing!

1616 Oakview, Kensington  
\$485,000 Open 2-4 pm



**ROCKRIDGE** \$1,300,000  
Rockridge Victorian Estate. Circa 1873  
Italianate Villa with grand porte-cochere.  
Private entry hall, generous formal rooms,  
fabulous details. Nearly 1/2 acre with creek.  
A must see! Steven Biasatti x239



**MONTCLAIR** \$519,000  
Montclair - New Listing, Charming Hillside  
Home - Open Beams, Atrium, Large Backyard  
Close to Montclair Shopping & Schools, 2  
Car Garage.  
Lois Johnson x226

**LAFAYETTE** \$1,225,000  
Contemporary Estate! Featuring 5 bedrooms  
including a dramatic master suite w/ fireplace,  
and sauna, 3.5 baths, spacious entry with an  
atrium, and a floor plan perfect for  
entertaining. Randy Churchill 925.935.9100

**BLACKHAWK** \$987,500  
Stunning Remodel! Decorator's own home  
with gorgeous new kitchen that cost over  
\$10,000. New solar collectors for low cost  
electricity, new hardwood & tile. An elegant  
low maintenance home on golf course.  
Dale Price 925.314.1500

**CASTRO VALLEY** \$860,000  
Gorgeous Home, Large Lot! Price includes  
landable lot already subdivided (2 acres) &  
me on 1.31 acres...what a steal! Huge game  
room w/wet bar, refrig., & pool table. 2 barns &  
beautiful landscaping & views!  
Janice Ivaldi 925.314.1500

**510.339.8900**

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Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide on page B13.

**BERKELEY HILLS REALTY**

**Open Homes: Sunday, March 24**

**931 Mendocino, Berkeley.**  
Just Listed!  
**Open Sun., 2-4.**  
Handsome, gracious prairie-style traditional on one of Berkeley's most coveted streets. Lovely formal rooms. Move-in condition. Remodeled kitchen/family room opens to extensive deck. 6 bedrooms, 3 baths! \$1,200,000. Nancy Mueller x20

**5742 Hermann Street, Oakland.**  
Just Listed!  
**Open Sun., 2-4:30.**  
Home, What a Sweet Home! Adorable 2+ bedroom cottage in convenient No. Oakland. Close to all the urban delights of Rockridge. Quiet one-block street, yet super freeway access. Central fireplace. Wood floors. Clawfoot tub in bathroom. Enclosed front porch. Private back patio. A sweetheart! \$285,000. Arlene Baxter x19

**543 - 42nd Street, Oakland.**  
**Open Sun., 2-4.**  
Stately 1910 Victorian located in the convenient Temescal neighborhood of Oakland close to BART and shops. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, spacious study in developed attic, formal dining room with original built-ins. 2-car detached garage. \$469,000. Joan Brunswick x12

**1519 Oxford #J, Berkeley.** Open Sun., 2-4.  
Sunny, spacious flat in beautifully maintained co-op building. Best location close to U.C. and all the amenities of North Berkeley. Loan may be available with large down payment. Gorgeous stained glass window in dining room, living room with fireplace and bookcases. Kitchen with tile counters. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. Quiet top unit; no shared walls. \$385,000. Maya Trilling x18

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**HILLCREST ESTATES**  
5BR/6BA.....\$1,975,000  
**Stunning 1991 Contemporary!**  
Flooded with natural light, created with entertainment in mind; handsome pool complete with waterfall & spa.

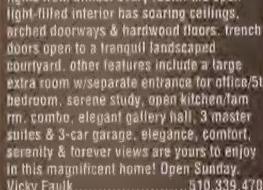
Ruby Ng, CRS ..... 510.339.4700



**2666 Carisbrook**  
4 BR/2.5BA ..... \$949,000  
Wonderful Cape Cod on large corner lot. Formal dining, kitchen/family room, library, 2 fireplaces, good indoor/outdoor living, pretty sunrooms. Open Sunday. Brian Hvmer ..... 510.339.4700

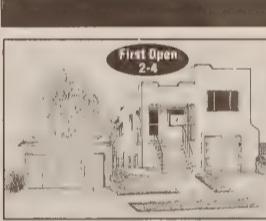


**6515 Gwen Rd., Montclair**  
**Stunning Contemporary - Sweeping Bay/ Bridge Views!**  
4-BR/4.5BA ..... \$1,875,000  
located on a quiet cul-de-sac, this masterpiece was built to capture breathtaking views, beautiful sunsets & city lights from almost every room: the open light-filled interior has soaring ceilings, arched doorways & hardwood floors, French doors open to a tranquil landscaped courtyard, other features include a large extra room w/separate entrance for office/5th bedroom, serene study, open kitchen/fam rm, comfo, elegant gallery hall, 3 master suites & 3-car garage. elegance, comfort, serenity & forever views are yours to enjoy in this magnificent home! Open Sunday. Vicki Faulk ..... 510.339.4700



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**705 SANTA FE, ALBANY** \$329,000  
Sweet split-level. 2 blocks to Solano Ave, bus stop on the corner. Come see this 2BR/1BA home. Large kitchen w/separate laundry room & a sunny garden. 1 car garage attached. Open Sunday. Diane Verducci/Sarah Shankman. 510.486.1495

**1320 4TH ST., BERKELEY** ..... \$289,000  
Sunday 1:30-4. West Berkeley 4 level loft in Tannery Loft Complex. Kitchen has copper counter tops & maple cabinets, tiled floors in kitchen & bath

Josh Whitmer ..... 510.486.1495

**3255 MONTEREY BLVD.** ..... \$602,000  
Sunday 1-4. Sunny Spacious contemporary in Redwood Heights. Balconies, bay views, 5+BR/3BA, HWF, skylights, large lot. Like New! Elizabeth Matkassian

**2809 DARNBY, MONTCLAIR** ..... \$505,000  
Sunday 2-5. 3BR/2BA. Live in your own park! Great yard w/pool of water view. A light-filled contemporary indoor/outdoor living, fresh paint inside. Judy O. Ackerman

**6152 MAURITANIA** ..... \$329,000  
Sunday 2-4:30. 2BR/1.5BA. Charmingly remodeled Bungalow near Mills College. "Newish" roof, electrical, plumbing & kitchen, gleaming hardwood floors, views & more. Dell Orr

510.339.4700

**4854 TRINIDAD AVE., JOAQUIN MILLER** ..... \$579,000  
Sunday 2-5. Rare find! Unique 1961 contemporary on large lot. Great indoor/outdoor spaces. Bay view! Private fence. Ruby Ng

510.339.4700

**514-516 VALLE VISTA** ..... \$575,000  
Sunday 1-4. Stunning duplex. Main house 3-BR/1.5BA w/updated kitchen & formal dining room, gleaming hardwood floor & large, level yard. Second unit 1BR/1BA

Nader Davari

510.339.4700

**6660 PINE NEEDLE DR.** ..... \$569,000  
Sunday 2-5. 3BR/2BA. New paint & carpets, open floor plan with decks, fireplace, beamed ceilings, fantastic canyon wood views. Open Sunday.

Jeffrey Neideman

510.339.4700

**4127 LAUREL** ..... \$563,000  
Sunday 2-5. Charming Laurel District Bungalow w/Bay view. 2BR/1BA + plus room, pretty yard, updated kitchen, newer systems. A real gem! Donna Conroy

510.339.4700

**4172 WILSHIRE BLVD., LINCOLN HEIGHTS** ..... \$499,000  
Sunday 2-5. Stunning City/Bay views & level yard! Lots of light & space in this one-owner, meticulously cared for home. 2+BR/2BA, formal dining, 2-car garage. Rachel Baller

510.339.4700

**BERKELEY** ..... \$369,000  
Split personality-lv/lwrk condo. Terrific design in great location. Light, wood, high ceilings & courtyard w/fountain ideal for small business, art work, photography.

Diane Verducci

510.486.1495

**OAKLAND** ..... \$285,000  
Cute 3BR/1BA Craftsman. Sunny & bright w/hardwood floors, large rear yard. Close to Mills College. 35th, MacArthur & Food Mill.

510.486.1495

**BERKELEY** ..... \$989,000  
11BR/4BA, central location, owner occupied with 12 rooms rented; many improv., nice neighborhood.

Jeffrey Neideman

510.339.4700

**6137 LaSalle Avenue, Oakland** ..... \$1,100,000. Please call Maura Allen 510.981.3034.

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frt. w/rdg, 925-428-2121.LIVERMORE: Office space  
avail. 17th fl. 1BD/1BA, 925-423-2311PITTSBURG: Storage  
units, 925-256-5699REFINANCE - Low Rates  
Discounts to Seniors 500+  
Fed. & State Employees  
#6052402, 925-887-0551\*EXCELENT\* Double-wide  
homes avail. Start at \$45K  
(925) 256-0244DUPLExes &  
Cluster Homes  
for SaleFIVE STAR PROPS  
925-680-0660, 459-0743

PRICED TO SELL

CONCORD: 1BD/1BA Open  
7/29. 1BD/1BA Expansive, covered  
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PITTSBURG

# Real Estate & Home

## Rentals EAST BAY

Apartments • Homes • Condos • Offices • Stores

### Furnished Rentals

**PLEASANT HILL:** Furn. 3BD & 2BA hm. Tennis, pool, nr DVC. \$1,050. Avail. April & May. \$1,050. 550/514-8657

### Duplexes & Cluster Homes for Rent

**ALAMEDA UPPER 3BD/2BA:** Victorian 1515 Minut St., \$1350/mo. includes water. Agt. 510/702-7595

**ALAMEDA border:** spiffy, quiet 2BD/1BA, remod. W/D, frplc, communal pool. \$1600 - 1/25/2002

**ANTIOCH 2BD/1BA:** \$1000 - 1/25/2002

**Nonoking:** (925) 754-2345

**ANTIOCH: 3BD/2BA,** newly remod., Indry. rm., 2nd car gar. frplc. Very nice. Water incl. \$1,050. 510/361-0179

**CONCORD: 2BD/1BA:** Just remodeled, very nice. Multiple parking. Good credit req. \$1,100. 510/361-0179

**CONCORD 3BD/3BA:** Take over at 1/25/2002. Near Bart. (925) 472-4250

**CONCORD 4 plex 2bd/2ba, remod., all remodeled, gar. incl., no pets, no sec. \$1,450. 510/361-0179**

**CONCORD-Aplex, sm. 2bd/2ba/Chen:** no pets, Walk-BART. \$995. 510/361-0371

**LIVERMORE - Avail. 4/1:** Clean, quiet, 2BD/1BA, deck back yard & gar. No pets. \$1,100. mo. + \$120. dep. (925) 423-2837

**LIVERMORE 2bd/1ba, b/D:** WD, unlt. v. 1st fl. \$995. 510/361-0372

**LIVERMORE: 1BD/1BA:** \$1,000/mo. WD, no pets. 925/449-0532

**LIVERMORE: 2bd/1ba, per. No pets, \$1,000/mo. + Creditreq.: (925) 443-2837**

**LIVERMORE 2bd/1ba, b/D:** WD, unlt. v. 1st fl. \$995. 510/361-0372

**MARTINEZ 1BD/1BA:** Laundry, small pet ok. 1412 ELM St \$795. 925/709-1581

**OAKLAND 2BD/1BA:** Gar. incl. frplc. W/D, patio, all new. \$1,050. 510/434-9994

**OAKLAND: 2BD/1BA on Berkeley Border:** 1902 charming, updated, remod. with new berber carpet. Paint, apples, WD, a/c, a/c. \$1,050. 510/434-9994

**\$500 MOVE IN BONUS!** \$1300/mo. 707-229-2356

**OAKLAND 2BD/1BA:** Upper 2nd flr. W/D, patio, all new. \$1,050. 510/434-9994

**OAKLAND: 2BD/1BA:** 405 MARION CT.

1920's, 1BD, bungalow, wood floor, shrd. yd. \$1200. 510/434-9994

**SUNNY 1bd Victorian apt. avail. May, gas, stv., blkd. back yard & gar. No pets. \$1,100. mo. + \$120. dep. (925) 423-0955**

**LARGE 1BD/1BA w/ b/D:** Eat in kpt. Prkng. Lots of storage. All new. \$1,050. 510/434-9994

**1BD/1BA:** 276 ADAMS Nook garden courtyard with pool, fresh greens, carrots & dragon fruit. \$995. 510/434-9994

**1BD/1BA 2031 Shoreline Dr.:** Park, pool, walk the beach, includes laundry. \$1,050. 510/434-9994

**1BD/1BA 2031 Shoreline Dr.:** Park, pool, walk the beach, includes laundry. \$1,050. 510/434-9994

**CHARMING 1bd upper flat in Victorian duplex, qtr. 1/25/2002:** \$995. 510/434-9994

**1BD/1BA 2031 Shoreline Dr.:** Park, pool, walk the beach, includes laundry. \$1,050. 510/434-9994

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**1BD/1BA 2031 Shoreline Dr.:** Park, pool



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COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Rates as of March 19, 2002	COMMENTS
A Better Mortgage 800-432-0424 DRE#0124793	30-yr Fixed 6.875 .0000 7.040 .0000 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.125 .0000 7.310 .00 30	15-yr Fixed 6.500 .0000 6.680 .00 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.250 .0000 6.430 .00 30	Open Weekends. Credit Problems OK! 2nd Mtg's. No equity required. <a href="http://www.capitalvalleymortgage.com">www.capitalvalleymortgage.com</a>	
AAA Mortgage 888-821-6200 DRE#01096146	30-yr Fixed 6.875 .0000 6.973 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.750 .0000 6.924 .00 30	15-yr Fixed 6.250 .0000 6.430 .00 30	3/1 ARM 5.750 1.000 5.930 .00 30	Purchase/Refinance/Home Equity/Consolidation Apply over the Phone - Call Today! <a href="http://www.aaahome.com">www.aaahome.com</a>	
AccessBanc Mortgage 800-661-2765 DRE#00892684	30-yr Fixed* 7.000 0.000 7.062 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo* 7.000 .0000 7.031 .00 30	Special**	Special**	***3/fmo ARM 5.75% no pts fees 4.625 apr* ***5/fmo ARM 6.375% no pts fees 4.629 apr* *Prepay restrictions may apply.	
A-Olympic Funding-Best Rate 800-640-5588 DRE#01197415	30-yr Fixed 6.500 .2.000 6.610 .30 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.725 .0000 6.850 .00 30	15-Yr Fixed 6.000 .2.000 6.120 .00 30	PyMt Buster ARM 4.375 .2.000 4.423 .00 30	Open 7 days 9 - 9 Apply 24/7 <a href="http://www.ofreloans.com">www.ofreloans.com</a> Pleasanton office at the Raley's Center	
California Mortgage Mart 800-947-4769 DRE#00406187	30-yr Fixed 6.875 .0.000 6.950 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.125 .0000 7.200 .00 30	15-yr Fixed 6.375 .0.000 6.480 .00 30	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.750 .0.000 6.830 .00 30	For further details and Loan Application, visit: <a href="http://www.CaliforniaMortgageMart.com">www.CaliforniaMortgageMart.com</a>	
Cal-State Funding 800-883-5363 DRE#00874441	30-yr Fixed 6.750 .1.000 6.940 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.000 .1.000 7.190 .00 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.375 .1.000 6.670 .00 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 5.875 .1.000 6.070 .00 30	Interest Rates are on the move daily. Call Today for the Lowest Rates + Fees. Rates are Lowest in 7 yrs. Submit applic.+ get pre-approved	
CMG Mortgage 800-958-5339 DRE#01170028	30-yr Fixed 6.750 .1.375 6.955 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.875 .1.500 7.054 .00 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 5.750 .1.125 5.882 .00 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.125 .1.250 6.260 .00 30	Open Saturday + Sunday. Quik Qualifier and Stated Income option available. Available financing for people with less than perfect credit.	
Downey Savings & Loan 800-798-2148 DRE#00921943	30-yr Fixed 6.750 .1.500 6.928 .00 45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.875 .1.500 7.090 .00 45	1-mo ARM 2.950 1.500 5.462 .45		Call by March 15 for Special Offer!	
Homeward Solutions 800-641-7556 DRE#00921943	30-yr Fixed 6.750 .1.000 6.920 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.250 .1.500 7.480 .00 30	15-yr Fxd 6.375 .1.000 6.600 .00 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo call .	<a href="http://www.finet.com">www.finet.com</a>	
Matrix Investment Corp. 860-366-8916 DOC#4130418	30 yr Fixed 6.500 .1.990 6.800 .00 30	30 yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500 .1.990 6.600 .00 30	30 yr Fixed 6.875 .0.000 7.010 .00 30	15-yr Fixed 5.875 .1.990 6.390 .00 30	Good & Bad Credit Considered Brokers Welcome, <a href="http://www.matrixinvestmentcorp.com">www.matrixinvestmentcorp.com</a> Outside Sales Leaders Desired Call 860-366-8916	
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 DRE#00887562	30-yr Fixed 7.125 .0.000 7.246 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.375 .0.000 7.498 .00 30	15-yr Fixed 6.625 .0.000 6.818 .00 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.625 .0.000 6.740 .00 30	Credit problems, bankruptcy, difficult loans our specialty. All govt loans, 100% loans, credit lines, construction. 20 years of service	
Olympic Funding Bay Area 888-833-1000 DRE#01197415	30-yr Fixed 7.000 .0.000 7.099 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.125 .0.000 7.175 .00 30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 5.875 .0.000 5.921 .00 30	25yr Fmo Jumbo ARM 4.250 .0.000 4.288 .00 30	3.75% single close constr + remodel-to-perm loans to \$2m. 18 mos const period 100% financing avail Call weekends 9-9 Apply <a href="http://www.SFOfunding.com">www.SFOfunding.com</a>	
Pacific West Financial 800-798-7334 DRE#01124581	30-yr Fixed 6.875 .0.000 6.935 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.875 .0.000 7.003 .00 30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.000 .1.500 6.184 .00 30	15-yr Fixed 6.500 .0.000 6.596 .00 30	Se habla Espanol! 100% Purchasing Loans Credit Problems OK	
Paramount Mortgage 800-372-7266 DRE#00622056	30-yr Fixed 6.875 .0.000 7.000 .00 30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo* 7.000 .0.000 7.125 .00 30	5-yr ARM Jumbo* 6.000 .1.000 6.125 .00 30	15-yr Fxd 6.375 .0.000 6.500 .00 30	*Interest only to \$2,500,000 1 month COFI 3.95% opt., 4% APR 30 days	

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Rates based on \$150,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$300,700) based on \$350,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate but cannot be guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact each company for details. Points include origination and discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance if required. Lock=rate lock period. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. \*Avg 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points

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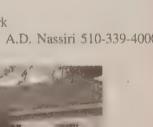
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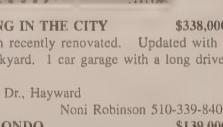
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# SPORTS

• Friday, March 22, 2002 •

Section C

**Inside** McGreehan: Reliving Olympic memories [C2]

**Inside** Magic of Spielberg's 'E.T.' still there [C3]

## Distance running: it's a personal thing

Annual Distance  
Fest draws biggest  
names in Bay Area

By Scott Strain and  
Bill Kruissink  
STAFF WRITERS

PIEDMONT — It was "cruisin' With Clara" on a cold Friday night at Witter Field. Horowitz, the Duke-bound Head-Royce senior, decided to make statement in the fast heat of the girls' 3,200-meter event at the fourth annual Bay Area Distance Festival held at Piedmont High. G.R., did she ever.

Blazing into the lead in the first 100 meters of the race Horowitz, a Berkeley resident, cold-footed it off in 10 minutes, 42.8 seconds, shattering the previous record of 11:35.2, set by Laura Hernandez of Granada last year. She's a 52-second difference.

She also tore away from St.

Brigid Duffy, defeating

for the second consecutive

year in a Distance Fest race.

Also a senior, finished sec-

ond in 11:01.0.

Duffy had completely

amped Horowitz two years

ago in the 1,600 when they were

sophomores. Duffy was al-

ways a season track runner

for Horowitz, a top cross-

country runner, was a relative

novice on the track.

Times have changed.

"The plan was to go out hard

and I would get a lot of benefit

from the race itself," Horowitz

said. "This is the way I wanted



**ME AND MY SHADOWS.** Runners in the final girls' heat of the 1,600 create images in the afternoon sun on the Witter Field track at Piedmont High. The Fourth Annual Bay Area Distance Festival drew more than 900 athletes from 48 schools last Friday.

to start my season and except for the cold, I couldn't be happier.

"I was a little nervous coming in, but I just felt great.

"I was cruising," she said. "It

was just so much fun. I practice here (at Witter) and I just feel very comfortable."

"I didn't run spectacular, I ran solid," Duffy said. "I ran my sec-

ond-best time ever for the two-mile. I was pacing myself and making sure I got the right splits.

I wasn't focusing on any other girl in the race."

The cold night didn't stop runners from setting five meet records. Shannon Rowbury, gushing "I really love this track" — she won last year, beating both

the cold night didn't stop runners from setting five meet records. Shannon Rowbury, gushing "I really love this track" — she won last year, beating both

Horowitz and Duffy — took the fast 1,600 in 4:56.2. She will be a teammate of Horowitz's at Duke.

Yfa Kretzschmar of University-San Francisco, won the girls' fast heat in a time of 2:13.5, breaking her own record of 2:17.1 which she set as a junior last season. She also owns the sophomore mark of 2:20.

Drake won the boys' 1,600 fast heat in 4:16.6, beating Gilat Gherbi of James Logan, who ran 4:18.6. It was the same time the Colt senior had run last year, when he finished second to Tom Phelps of Piedmont.

Drake's time was also a meet record, besting Phelps' mark of 4:17.9, which was set last year.

The only record not broken was in the last individual race of the night, the boys' 3,200. Eric Roberts of Alhambra won in 9:28.7. Carl Dambkowski of Granada set the mark in 2001, running 9:20.6.

Of course, claiming a meet record was just one reason to head to Piedmont.

For one thing, Witter Field is a beautiful place to run. The track is state-of-art and the scenery sparkling — The City at dusk and all that.

Said Albany's Zoe Griffith: "It's a really, really nice track — especially with the dirt we have to run on. We run at Cougar Field and they just spent a lot (of money) to redo the track. It rained and pretty much negated their effort."

See FEST, Page C2

## Panthers save best for last

After a homer ties it, McGuiness' single wins it in bottom of 10th; Cougars Worth it out St. Pat's

By Curtis Elliott

CORRESPONDENT

Then the

**Prep baseball**

in on St. Joe's, the game's starting pitcher, singled, and Chase Moore followed with a single to put runners on first and second. Peter McGuiness, who hails from Alameda, and who knows Freitas from Little League, then blasted the ball into the gap to score Storno with the winning run.

The rally-hat had been on the other head in the top of the last.

St. Joe had rallied from a three-run deficit, chasing starter Storno in the process. St. Mary's was in

the at third base, relieved in

with his team trailing 9-

0s promptly picked a runner

and pitched two in-

nings of hitless relief. After get-

ting the first out in the seventh,

was two shy of the win.

Unfortunately for the Pilots,

Panthers' Chris Alfert was

up. A good-luck charm

for St. Mary's, he'd sin-

gle and tripled and twice

ended in field errors. Need-

more than a walk to get

things started, Alfert coaxed

count to 3-1. But when the 3-

offering came in, he ripped the ball over the right-center field fence. The only home run of the day, the blast had tied the game at 10.

"My freshman year I hit one over the bleachers," Alfert said.

"I'm lucky to get three hits in a

game. I don't get three hits that often."

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over for Storno and induced the first man he faced to pop out. But a walk, a single, a grounder and an error soon had St. Joe up 10-9.

Playing in a strong, chilly wind, the game clocked in at 2 1/2 hours. And it was a contest riddled with mistakes, as the Pilots made five errors, the Panthers six. However, the length of the contest wasn't entirely due to errors. There was a lot of hitting to go around too. The Panthers may have won because they out-scored the Pilots, 16-12.

St. Mary's opened the game

with two runs, but this was not

a contest where leads had for-

long. St. Joseph batted around

twice, the Panthers once during

the contest.

St. Joe's first bat-around came in a strange second inning where four runs scored on the strength of just two hits. Tony Duncan got one of the hits, a single to lead off the bases with no outs — just as he would in the seventh inning.

A couple errors and a sacrifice

fly gave the Pilots a 3-2 edge,

then a wild pitch made it 4-2.

St. Mary's became big benefactors in the third, scoring three times on only one hit. Two infield

errors and two walks brought in

two runs and Mejia singled home

a run to give the Panthers a 5-4

advantage.

The Panthers appeared to

break the game open in the

fourth as they batted around. Mo-

rocco led off with a single, then

Alfert tripled home Morocco and

scored when the ball was overthrown. Storno and Moore fol-

lowed with singles. After a couple of outs, John Ayers and Mejia both singled, as two more runs crossed the plate. Four runs scored in the inning to make it 9-4.

But in the fifth, St. Mary's

succumbed to the heart of St.

Joe's batting order.

A Pilot single and double were

followed by a run-scoring single

by Freitas. A fielder's choice cut

the gap to three, 9-6. Which set

the stage for the top of the seventh.

"They hit the ball a little bit

better than we did," St. Joe coach

Freitas said. "We came back a

couple times. Got ahead there

once. We didn't play the ball very

good in this outfield. We just had

a hard time. Some of those that

were killers at the end."

"I knew it would be a fight in

the last inning," Shimabukuro said.

"St. Joe never quits. They've

got a young group that's been

over there since they were fresh-

men. They're juniors now and they're scrappy. I knew our

pitcher was getting tired. I was

trying to get him (Storno)

through a complete game. I knew

we were kind of thin in the

bullypen."

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# Ready for some Olympic moments?

**M**EMORIES OF A most special sporting experience: "Chi-Chi-Chi, le-le-le! iViva Chile!" scream the flag-waving Chilean fans just a couple rows behind my father, sister and me. "Rubbish!" groused the Englishman seated in front us, as he reacts to every missed pass. Add to these scenes an enthusiastic group of Italian sailors, the always-colorful Brazilians and a throng of locals cheering, "USA, USA," in a 3-0 win against Costa Rica and you have just some of the flavor that was Olympic soccer at Stanford Stadium in 1984.

Yes, the soccer matches held down on The Farm that year were a special experience, a part of the Los Angeles Olympics — well, fanned out — to Northern California.

Olympiads — whether one attends soccer, cycling, basketball, field hockey or that long-time staple, track and field — always have an aura all their own. This year's Winter Games have come and gone. The world now awaits the Summer Olympics of Athens in 2004.

There are many folks, though, who are thinking of the years beyond.

Imagine, if you will, some of the world's greatest athletes coming to the Bay Area in the summer of 2012. Well, it could happen if the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee has its



MIKE MCGREEHAN  
Between the Lines

way. Currently, San Francisco is one of four U.S. cities vying to host the Summer Games 10 years from now. And though San Francisco will be the official host city, the East Bay will be very much a part of the Olympic picture.

"Our plan is to use the Network Associates Coliseum for soccer and the Arena for basketball," says Tony Winnicker, BASOC communications director. "The East Bay is key to our bid because of BART. All of our venues are planned to be on public transportation lines."

In addition to the Coliseum Complex, Winnicker mentioned Henry J. Kaiser Arena as a proposed site for weightlifting events. Moving north, additional soccer matches would take place at Cal's Memorial Stadium with team handball the featured event at Haas Pavilion.

Oh — and Winnicker mentioned Jack London Square as a "celebration site," a place where people could gather to simply be in the Olympic spirit.

Olympic visions aren't new to the Bay Area. Perhaps spurred

by the enthusiasm at Stanford in 1984, some Bay Area folks proposed a bid for the '96 Games back in 1987. Controversy in the gay community arose, though, because of the U.S. Olympic Committee's ban on the use of the term "Gay Olympics" for a competition involving gay and lesbian athletes. The already-lukewarm support for that bid dropped, as the 1996 Games eventually became Atlanta's.

That was then. This is now.

"At the time, the USOC decided to enforce the Olympics trademark," Winnicker said.

"There's been changes in the USOC (since 1987) and there's gay and lesbian Olympians on (the BASOC) board. I think this has been a much, much wider

effort. We've engaged all the (Bay Area) mayors."

Most prominent has been the backing of the mayors Brown — Willie in San Francisco and Jerry in Oakland.

"We couldn't have a more vocal advocate than the current (S.F.) mayor, Willie Brown," Winnicker said. "And in the East Bay, we've had tremendous support from Jerry Brown and the Alameda County Board of Supervisors."

Foremost in the minds of Bay Area residents is the cost of staging the Olympics.

Though Los Angeles 1984 remains a model for all future Olympics by covering its costs many times over, the financial bath suffered by Montreal in

the wake of the 1976 Games still is firmly etched in the memories of many adults.

Look for San Francisco 2012 to follow the pattern of Los Angeles 1984, Winnicker contends.

"We're a privately-funded Olympic Games," Winnicker says. "We're not asking for public funds."

"In addition, we have a lot of existing facilities — 80 percent of us need to host the Olympics actually exists today."

As was the case with the Los Angeles Games 18 years ago, proceeds from the Olympics will fund youth sports in and around the host city.

On March 1, Oakland and the East Bay threw additional support behind the 2012 bid in a fund-raiser breakfast at the Oakland Marriott City Center.

Of course, much more work has to be done to make this dream a reality.

Originally San Francisco was one of four cities for the U.S. bid. October, the U.S. Olympic Committee, and Dallas from competing. San Francisco is home to the USOC offices, the Bay Area, and the International Olympic Committee, which pick the host city worldwide.

"There's a lot of Area and our bid makes us the ones," says confidence.

For now, members of the Bay Area delegation are awaiting news of the bid's outcome.

## BRIEFS

### Soccer tryouts

The Alameda-Contra Costa Youth Soccer League Mavericks will hold tryouts for the fall season in March and April. Tryouts will be for Class I and III girls and Class I boys. Players are advised to arrive 30 minutes in advance for check-in. Expect each tryout to last two hours.

### Girls tryouts

(all times subject to change)

■ Under-15 — April 14, Anderson 2, 2 p.m.; April 21, Anderson

1, 1 p.m.; April 28, Gabe West, 3 p.m.

■ Under-16 — April 14, Anderson 1, 2 p.m.; April 21, Fielding West, noon; April 28, Anderson 2, 3 p.m.

■ Under-17 — April 14, Anderson 1, 4 p.m., April 21, Fielding West, 2 p.m.; April 28, Fielding West, 2 p.m.

■ Under-18/19 — April 14, Anderson 2, 4 p.m.; April 21, Gabe West 1 p.m.; April 28, Fielding West, 10 a.m.

### Last

FROM PAGE C1

### Postgame

STATS: Alfert had three hits, two runs batted in and four runs scored. Storno and Moore each had three hits also. Chris Morocco, Storno and Tom Carman scored two runs a piece. Mejia had a perfect day at the plate with two hits, two walks and two RBI.

ON DECK: St. Mary's hosts St. Elizabeth today at 3:30 p.m. On March 26, the Piedmont Highlanders visit St. Mary's, playing at 3:30 p.m.

### Albany 4, St. Patrick 1

Lou Worth fired a four-hitter and Matt Ball went 2-for-3 with an RBI as the Cougars (7-2, 2-0) remained in first place in the BSAL with a victory over the Bruins (0-1 BSAL).

### St. Mary's 8, El Cerrito 6

The Panthers (4-5) broke open a close game with seven runs in the sixth inning for an 8-0 lead, then had to hold off a hard-charging Gauchos (5-2) squad, which scored six runs in the seventh inning of the nonleague game.

Chris Morocco hit a two-run home run in the sixth inning for St. Mary's, while Greg Murray keyed El Cerrito's seventh-inning surge with a grand slam.

### Fest

FROM PAGE C1

Some look beyond the view, preferring to deal with the hard facts of running and to push themselves in one of the first big meets of the year. It's a chance to shake off a winter's worth of rust, to see where their times are, to see what they have to work on.

Griffith, a senior who won the fifth heat of the girls 1,600 (there were 11 heats), was out there primarily to get her bearings. A soccer player by trade, she thought she'd run the 3,200, but slipped into the 1,600 when a teammate dropped out.

Her goals, then, were simple. "I ran yesterday and ran 5:44. So today I was going for yesterday's record," she said. "I don't think I got it, but I didn't know what to expect from this meet because I've never run on this track before."

Her time was 5:51.2.

St. Mary's Scott Howard was also a winner of sorts. He took the fourth of 14 heats in the boys 1,600 and his time of 5:02.6 was a personal best in the event.

"I think I did a good job; I

pushed myself the whole way," he said. "I missed five minutes by two seconds, but I have the rest of the season to work on that."

Turns out, every runner who placed first or second in their heat was a winner since they received a free meet T-shirt ("I love getting T-shirts," said St. Mary's runner Gabi Rios-Sotelo, who took the 10th heat in the girls 1,600).

The meet is big — more than 900 athletes from 48 schools checked in. In this year it was run in cool, often windy conditions. The runners, however, didn't appear to notice the weather.

"Not really," Howard said. "You can't really focus on that stuff."

Local results from the meet include:

### Girls 1,600 meters

(Winning time: Shannon Rowbury, Sacred Heart Cathedral-SF, 4:56.2; meet record)

ALBANY — Zoe Griffith 5:51.2; Fiona Gladstone 6:38.9.

BERKELEY — Modupe Olave 6:45.4; Katherine Ellis 6:46.1; Katie Osborn 6:58.8.

ST. MARY'S — Emily Olson 6:03.8; Lauren Gates 7:14.1.

### Girls 800 meters

(Winning time: Yfa Kretzschmar, University-SF, 2:13.5; meet record)

EL CERRITO — Laticica Vaca, 3:09.7; Monique Lee 3:11.3.

ST. MARY'S — Willa Porter 2:22.8; Danille Riccardi 2:58.7; Christina Taylor 3:02.9.

### Girls 3,200 meters

(Winning time: Clara Horowitz, Head-Royce, 10:42.8; meet record)

ST. MARY'S — Bridget Duffy, 11:01.1; Megan Harrington 14:03.7.

### Boys 1,600 meters

(Winning time: Sean Drake, University-SF, 4:16.6; MEET RECORD)

ALBANY — Phillip Lee 5:36.1; Allen Seol 5:37.2; Halley Lebron-Tang 5:39.7.

BERKELEY — Bradley Johnson 4:59.0; Scott Monach 5:02.4; Jonathon Finney 5:03.0; Richard Farrell 5:30.0; Ricardo Hernandez 5:31.7; Eguene Wu 5:35.8.

EL CERRITO — Andrew

Tamura 5:55.1; Eric Friesen time.

ST. MARY'S — Sean

5:02.6; Jake Texan 5:50.

### Boys 800 meters

(Winning time: Tim Bishop O'Dowd, 1:51.5; RECORD)

ALBANY — Justin

2:02.2; Sean Carey 2:19.8.

BERKELEY — Sean

2:06.4; Sammara

Bradley Johnson 2:07.5.

Machomson 2:20.8.

Wu 2:28.0.

EL CERRITO — Tamura 2:30.2; Eric

2:39.6.

### Boys 3,200 meters

(Winning time: Clara Horowitz, Head-Royce, 10:42.8; meet record)

ALBANY — Jerry

10:57.6; Jeffrey Hinton

Santos Rivera 11:12.

phier Wild, 11:59.5.

BERKELEY — Nic Riley

9:55.8; Nic Riley 10:00.8.

ST. MARY'S — Jake Texan

10:01.8; Jake Texan



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# Arts



## Oscar voting this season is a real drudge

FOR MANY IN THE media who are online a lot and get much of their breaking news off the Net, the Drudge Report ([www.drudgereport.com](http://www.drudgereport.com)) is often the first place they check. (Yes, even *Yahoo! news*.) Drudge has become the most common page in some radio and TV newsrooms. True, Matt Drudge is opinionated and yes, he is the net (where rumor and fiction abound), but by and large, Drudge is usually THE web site to find out what's going on at any given hour — and his site provides the best details of the stories. Check out Drudge for a week or two; you may well become addicted and bookmark the site prominently.

For breaking news in the West or Afghanistan, Drudge is the best place I've found to get instant links to the band to the British press; military matters, it has links to the authoritative Jane's Defense Weekly site. I'm not crazy about all the Drudge links to the Moonie-owned, ultra-conservative Washington Times, but they are occasionally useful.

The Drudge site has been in the news the past two days after its last-minute revelation that the biography of schizophrenic Nobel Laureate Forbes Nash, subject of the film nominee "A Beautiful Mind," includes "proof" that Nash was a "Jew-basher."

This set off turmoil in Hollywood, where the Oscar voting concluded this past Tuesday night. There's an unusually large turnout this year for Best Picture nominees. It's been a lean year for films. The Drudge excerpt from Sylvia Nasar's "A Beautiful Mind" book seemed to indicate that both the writer-producer of "Mind" purchased Nash's supposed anti-Semitism because, said a feminist Drudge, "they were smart that the chances of winning an Oscar would be if the film's protagonist was a basher of a religion that is disproportionately represented in the Academy voting

It's a highly charged issue, no doubt. Alarm bells went off, "Mind" producer DreamWorks quickly arranged for "60 Minutes" Mike Wallace to interview Nash for last Sunday's show. Nash said he was delusional, not bigoted. (Nasar also thought he was the Emperor of Antarctica when unscripted). Continuing the media coverage control following his revelations about the real Akiva Goldsman, the screenwriter, said he was shocked Nash was indeed delusional, not bigoted.

Even the Jerusalem Post got the act (I got this link from [www.jpost.com](http://www.jpost.com)), quoting Goldsman as explaining that holding paranoid schizophrenic Nash responsible for these "is like blaming a man cancer for losing weight."

In addition to the map, superb captions throughout the exhibition place the artwork in a historic, geographic and social setting.

That Victorian-era farmhouse, painted by Joseph Lee circa 1871, was Capt. Thomas W. Badger's

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"WEST OAKLAND," 1928, by Bernard Von Eichman

## Oakland: Lost and found

Exhibit captures images of the city, past and present

By Robert Taylor  
TIMES CORRESPONDENT

**A**T FIRST IT SEEKS like a lost world: a Victorian-era farmhouse with a windmill and water tower, surrounded by a picket fence. Cows, chickens and ducks, virtually posing for the viewer in a grassy field. Two rows of wooden storefronts that look as if they're on the edge of the Western frontier. A bustling waterfront thick with the masts of sailing ships.

Then, as you view more of this exhibition, landmarks become more clear: A sunset that glows through a blanket of fog turns out to be a view from the Oakland hills with Mount Tamalpais in the background. If a painting depicts a day at a lake, it's usually Lake Merritt. And a painting titled "The Trojan Horses" shows the instantly recognizable giant cranes at the Port of Oakland.

"Scene in Oakland, 1852-2002," the new exhibit at the Oakland Museum celebrating the city's 150th anniversary, offers many scenes that have disappeared. But with the 66 paintings, drawings, watercolors and photographs keyed to a map of the city, the show could just as well be titled "Oakland: Lost and Found."

In addition to the map, superb captions throughout the exhibition place the artwork in a historic, geographic and social setting.

That Victorian-era farmhouse, painted by Joseph Lee circa 1871, was Capt. Thomas W. Badger's



"JOAQUIN MILLER'S HOME," 1915, by Selden Connor Gile



"3RD AND ALICE," 1949, by George Post

### EXHIBIT PREVIEW

- WHAT: "Scene in Oakland, 1852-2002: Artworks Celebrating the City's 150th Anniversary"
- WHERE: Oakland Museum of California, 10th and Oak streets, Oakland, one block from Lake Merritt BART station
- WHEN: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday, open to 9 p.m. first Friday of the month, through Aug. 25
- HOW MUCH: \$6 general, \$4 seniors and students, free for children 5 and under. Free admission second Sunday of the month.
- CONTACT: 510-238-2200, [www.museumca.org](http://www.museumca.org)

residence at what would later be Ninth Street and Eighth Avenue east of Lake Merritt. (Gertrude Stein and Isadora Duncan, when they were children, lived on nearby "farms" a decade later. It was this lost landscape that Stein recalled in the 1930s when she returned and noted that "there is no there there.")

Albert Bierstadt, best known for monumental views of Yosemite, painted the view of the Oakland shore and foggy Bay circa 1872. The busy waterfront scene, by John C. White, depicts the Oakland Long Wharf that extended two miles into the deeper waters of the Bay in the 1870s. That raw little "Western" street is the earliest work in the

See OAKLAND, Page C5

## Magic of Spielberg's 'E.T.' is still there

By Vera H-C Chan  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Twenty years is far too long an absence between friends.

Much of the ink on the 20th anniversary re-release of "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial" has been on its legacy. It gave director Steven Spielberg the courage to pursue later projects such as "The Color Purple," "Schindler's List" and "Saving Private Ryan." Its role reversal of the kind, frightened alien and looming, hostile Earthlings reflected how America's concerns turned from the Cold War to our domestic state.

What the theatrical revival has done is to underscore what has gone missing: the patient, sweet devotion to storytelling. More than anything, the tenderness and sweet humor of "E.T." remind us how much cinematic shorthand has truncated emotion in the mad rush toward special effects.

Even the first credits (in '80s lavender) set up the rules of suspense: Introductions first, but not

### REVIEW

- WHAT: "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial"
- STARRING: Henry Thomas, Robert MacNaughton, Drew Barrymore
- RATING: PG (language and mild thematic elements)
- RUNNING TIME: 2 hours
- WHERE: Opens today at area theaters
- GRADE: A

one snippet will be given away. As the film begins to unfold under a night sky, the faint, hollow notes of John Williams' score instills a comingling sense of fear and dread, yet with a haunting beauty.

When vague, otherworldly outlines gradually appear, these figures inspire uncertainty, not terror. From the beginning, we see our world through their eyes, as their extra-long, quivering brown fingers gently uproot saplings in a forest. Especially



THE AIRBORNE BICYCLE RIDE in "E.T." has become a part of American culture.

for one visitor, every sight inspires a palpable sense of awe as he wanders among the tall slender redwoods or sits on a slope, sighing contentedly, to see the glowing township below him.

Fear comes in the form of humans, unseen figures whose pickups suddenly tear into the

serenity. Too far from the ship (which resembles an enormous silver Christmas ornament), a fearful E.T. is left behind, and he begins to make his way down to the anonymous grid of California suburbia.

Where he ends up is the home

See ET, Page C5

### EVENTS

#### General

OAKLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY — PIEDMONT BRANCH — "Flashes of Genius: Short Works by Literary Masters." A discussion group for short stories. March 26, 6:30 p.m.: "A Good Man is Hard to Find" by Flannery O'Connor. 160 41st St. (510) 597-5011.

WEST OAKLAND BRANCH — "Chess Workshop for Children," Wednesdays, 4 p.m. to 5:20 p.m. 1801 Adeline St. (510) 597-5049. Free. Oakland. (510) 238-3134 or [www.oaklandlibrary.org](http://www.oaklandlibrary.org)

CODY'S BOOKSTORES — TELEGRAPH AVENUE — Julia Butterfly Hill, March 30. The environmental activist talks about "One Makes a Difference: Inspiring Actions to Change Our World." All events are at 7:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise. 2454 Telegraph Ave. (510) 845-7852.

SPECIAL EVENT — Ahmed Rashid, March 26, 7:30 p.m. Rashid, a Pakistani journalist and author of "Taliban: Militant Islam, Oil and Fundamentalism in Central Asia" and "Jihad: The Rise of Militant Islam in Central Asia," talks about "Looking Forward:

Afghanistan, Central Asia and Global Stability." In collaboration with International and Area Studies and the Institute for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies at University of California. At Sibley Auditorium, Bechtel Engineering Center, University of California, Berkeley. Free unless noted otherwise. Berkeley.

THE STARRY PLOUGH — "The Berkeley Poetry Slam," Wednesday, 8:30 p.m. Poets should arrive at 7:30 p.m. to sign up. The first Wednesday of the month is "Chicken Grease," hosted by Nazelah Jamison and Karen Ladson with spinning by DJ Funklor; all other Wednesdays are "The Berkeley Slam!" hosted by Charles Ellik and Dani Eurnome with music by Three Blind Mice. For ages 21 and over after 10 p.m. \$5. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 435-1665.

MICHAEL DATCHER — Michael Datcher, March 22, 6:30 p.m. The author presents a narrative that charts the dangerous social and racial minefield Black American men cross every day in "Raising Fences: A Black Man's Love Story." Free. 3900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. (510) 652-2344.

GOLDEN GATE GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY TRAVEL FILM SERIES — through March 23. "China and The Gorges." A film about the Three Gorges on the Yangtze River and the Three Lesser Gorges, all of which are about to be submerged in a lake created by a huge dam. Other features include Shanghai, Nanjing, the seaport of Qingdao, Xi'an and the buried army, Beijing, the Great Wall, Wuhan, Yichang and Wanxian, another future dam victim. Produced and presented in person by Raphael and Jocelyn Green. March 23, 2 p.m.: Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. \$9 general; \$4.50 students age 14 and under. (800) 247-GGGG.

CALIFORNIA SHAKE-SPEARE FESTIVAL ANNUAL GALA — March 23, 6 p.m. The event includes a champagne reception, dinner, live and silent auctions, dancing and more. Proceeds benefit the Annual Fund and the Theater's Artistic Learning Initiative. \$175 to \$250. Rotunda Building, 300 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. (510) 548-3422 ext. 125.

PARAMOUNT THEATRE — "Academy Gala," March 24, 3:30 p.m. Arrive to gala red carpet treatment. Once inside the Grand Foyer "See-and-be-Seen" while dining on a sumptuous buffet of film-themed dishes by East Bay restaurants and caterers. Shortly before 5 p.m., take your seat in the theater and enjoy a concert by the Paramount's mighty Wurlitzer. Then it's Awards time. Watch the 74th Annual Academy Awards on the theater's historic big screen. Attend the "Rodeo Drive Boutique" a chic silent auction. Black tie or "Hollywood festive" attire preferred. A benefit for the Cystic

See EVENTS, Page C5

## NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Vera H-C Chan and Mary F. Pols. Times; Robert W. Butler, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Anthony Breznican, Christy Lemire, Tim Molloy, Sheila Norman-Culp and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elvis Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Valerie Kuklenski, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Kevin Thomas, Los Angeles Times; Gary Doherty, Tom Maurost, Chris Vognar and Philip Wunsch, Dallas Morning News; and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel.

**"ALL ABOUT THE BENJAMINS":** An occasional burst of visual inventiveness livenes up this standard-issue crime-comedy. Ice Cube plays Bucum Jackson, a Miami bounty hunter in pursuit of Reggie White (Mike Epps), a serial bail-jumper. When Reggie takes a wrong turn into a storage complex where a bloody jewel heist has just gone down, the murderous crooks shoot their way past Bucum, unaware that Reggie is hiding in their getaway van. Reggie and Bucum both escape, but the bad guys now have Reggie's wallet along with his \$60 million lottery ticket. When Bucum finally tracks Reggie down, the longtime antagonists join forces to get the ticket

back. — B. Strauss. (R: violence, sex, language.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. C+

**"AMELIE":** A feel-good movie in the best possible sense, a comic fable from French director Jean-Pierre Jeunet that vibrates with joy and fast-dances with life. Amelie (the relentlessly charming Audrey Tautou) is a lonely young lady who keeps a watchful eye on the rest of the world. One day she sets out to reunite a child's treasure with its long-grown owner and discovers she likes playing emotional Robin Hood. Setting out on a path to help her neighbors and the denizens of the cafe where she works, she inadvertently trips into a love affair with a guy (Mathieu Kassovitz) who might be as sweetly eccentric as she is. Every time you think the movie is getting too sticky-sweet, Jeunet throws some tart and funny in our path. — M. Pols. (R: sexual content.) 2 hours. A

**"A BEAUTIFUL MIND":** Very good by-the-book filmmaking from director Ron Howard. The film spans 47 years in the life of John Forbes Nash Jr. (Russell Crowe), a mathematical genius who won the Nobel Prize for economics in 1994. Doubtless the element that made Crowe want to play Nash (brilliantly, as usual) is that Nash also suffers from schizophrenia, and has for decades.

Daring only in its subject matter — math and mental illness — the movie follows the careful trajectory of a classic inspirational story, occasionally veering into the medicinal, but still undeniably moving and effective. Jennifer Connelly is excellent as Nash's wife. — M. Pols. (PG-13: intense thematic material, sexual content and a scene of violence.) 2 hours, 8 minutes. B+

**"BIG FAT LIAR":** Frankie Muniz plays Jason, a 14-year-old who can't tell the truth. Inspiration strikes when his father complains of his "God-given talent" for making up tales, so he writes a short story on a big fat liar for a homework assignment. By chance, he collides with an obnoxious Hollywood producer on the way to deliver this assignment. The producer (Paul Giamatti), starved for a hit, swipes the story and puts it into pre-production. Jason has lost his assignment, and his excuse is an unbelievable whopper. Jason and his sole pal, Kaylee (Amanda Bynes), set out to get an apology or, failing that, revenge. The film is predictable and overly reliant on the fetchetted, but no lie, it's the hippest kids movie since "Spy Kids." — R. Moore. (PG: some language.) 1 hour, 27 minutes. B-

**"CROSSROADS":** Notable only as Brit-

ney Spears' acting debut. It's bad, but certainly not without merit as entertainment. Spears plays Lucy, high school valedictorian and goody-two-shoes, who sets out on a cross-country road trip with two childhood friends, the witchy Kit (Zoe Saldana) and forlornly pregnant Mimi (Taryn Manning, seemingly doomed to play tragic teens forever). The main goal of the trip seems to be to loosen up Lucy, a task that mostly fails to their hunky driver, an ex-con named Ben (Anson Mount) who looks a dreamy, but inappropriate, 30. — M. Pols. (PG-13: Sexual content, brief teen drinking.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. C-

**"DRAGONFLY":** This weirdly off-putting romantic ghost story never finds that magical, love-that-transcends-death tone it is aiming for. Kevin Costner plays Joe Darro, a Chicago emergency-room physician whose wife, Emily (Susanna Thompson), dies in the film's opening scenes when her bus is washed away in a Venezuelan mudslide. After the no-body funeral, the doctor is faced with evidence of supernatural visits. Is Emily (Susanna Thompson) trying to get in touch with him? Director Tom Shadyac lets his film meander along, shocking us with cheap scares and tiny revelations while jamming way too many plot twists into its final act. — R. Moore. (PG-13: thematic material and mild sensuality.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. C-

**"THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING":** A soulful, passionate giant of a movie, one that will live long past 2001. New Zealand director Peter Jackson's ("Heavenly Creatures") adaptation of the first third of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic

"Lord of the Rings" enraptures you with its dramatic storytelling and visuals and leaves you rejoicing that there are filmmakers out there who have the guts to make a movie destined for vast commercial success that's also intelligent and ferociously heartfelt. Terrifying when it should be, moving when it should be, this holds true to Tolkien's vision. One of the best movies of the year. — M. Pols. (PG-13: epic battle sequences and scary images.) 2 hours, 58 minutes. A

**"ICE AGE":** The plot for this animated film looks back 20,000 years when all creatures were planning a southbound exodus before the big freeze. Sun-dwelling woolly mammoth Manny and chatterbox Sid, a lazy sloth, have the makings of a prehistoric odd couple, but they become creatures of action when they must return a lost infant to his human tribe. Saber-toothed tiger Diego joins them, but with his own agenda. The screenplay's clever patter has pop-culture references and sophisticated exchanges that may roll over the heads of some audience members. But kids probably will lap up much of the film. — P. Wunsch. (PG: scenes of peril.) 1 hour, 27 minutes. B

**"ITALIAN FOR BEGINNERS":** Strangest of surprises from Dogma '99 movement more intriguing than being en-

duced to the concept of the movement. So people take it an-

Copenhagen and begin to

gravitate toward

romantic chick flick

in share of depression,

death, and gloom.

and sexual dysfunction

the froth of love and

inevitably a Dogma

and drab. But it's still

warm us through

M. Pohl (R: language and sex)

1 hour, 39 minutes. B

**"JOHN Q":** A heart-rending, ent-

ertaining, almost forget-

derous awfulness if

you leave the theater

the charismatic central

Denzel Washington

goodwill will be born

John Quincy Armand

good husband and dad

ends well. When he's

his 9-year-old son

he takes the hospital rounds

hostage. A cliché-ridden

See REVIEWS —

## FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Titles and showtimes subject to change. Call theaters for information.

\* Wheelchair Accessible

Showtimes for Friday March 22

## Act 1 and 2

2780 Center Street, Berkeley 510-843-3456  
•in the Bedroom (R) 6:30, 9:30  
•Monster's Ball (R) 7:10

## Albany Twin

1115 Solano Ave, Albany 510-843-3456

•Amelia (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30

•Monsoon Wedding (R) 1:45, 7:10

## California Theatre

2113 Kirtland St, Berkeley 510-843-3456  
•Theatre Closed for Earthquake Retrofit.

## Century 16 Bayfair Mall

\* 350 Bayfair Mall, San Leandro 510-275-5694

•40 Days and 40 Nights (R) 4: 6, 8:05

10:05

•All About the Benjamins (R) 12:30, 3:10, 5:45, 7:55, 10:15

•Blade II (R) 11:30, 12:45, 1:30, 2:45, 4:50, 7:10, 9:50, 10:20

•Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (PG) 6

•Ice Age (PG) 11:20, 11:50, 1:40, 2:30, 4:5, 7, 7:30, 9:10, 9:40

•in the Bedroom (R) 1:45, 7:10, 9:40

•Monsoon Wedding (R) 1:45, 7:10

•The Time Machine (PG-13) 12:10, 2:40, 4:50, 7:15, 9:35

•We Were Soldiers (R) 12:55, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

•Ice Age (PG) 11:30, 1:30, 2:35, 3:20, 4:25, 5:20, 6:30, 7:25, 8:30, 9:35, 10:20

•John Q (PG-13) 11:40, 2:30, 5:40, 7:40, 9:10, 10:10

•Resident Evil (R) 11:50, 1:10, 2:15, 3:25, 4:35, 5:45, 7:50, 8:50

•Return to Never Land (G) 11:55, 1:45, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:45, 7:45, 8:45

•Showtime (PG-13) 12, 1, 2, 20, 3:15, 4:40, 5:55, 6:55, 7:50, 9:55

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•Resident Evil (R) 11:50, 1:10, 2:15, 3:25, 4:35, 5:45, 7:50, 8:50

•Return to Never Land (G) 11:55, 1:45, 2:45, 3:45, 4:45, 5:45, 6:45, 7:45, 8:45

•Showtime (PG-13) 12,



## NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

## TRIPLEX

By DAVID J. KAHN EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

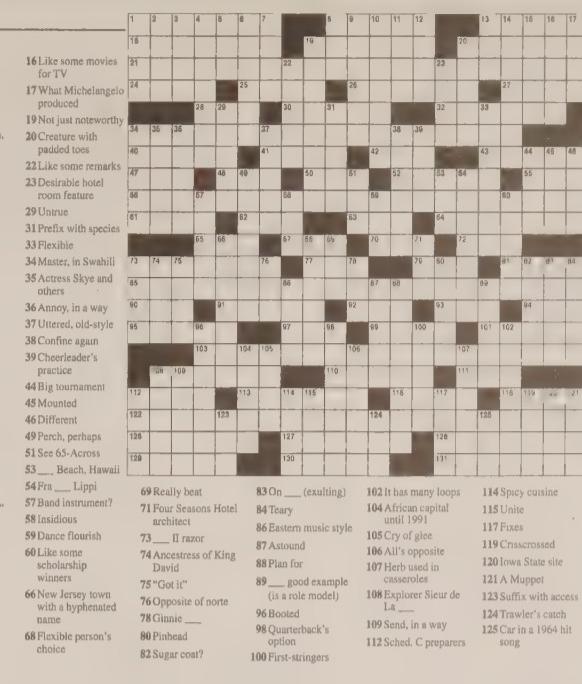
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- 2 Eunuch's charge
- 3 End of \_\_\_\_
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- 19 "Even Horner ends" writer
- 20 Key person in England
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- 34 Advice to a budding alarmist? [1988, 1990, 1994]
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For any other answers, call from a touch-tone phone: 1-900-285-5656 \$1.20 each minute.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

## Children

The Buddy Club presents famous Los Angeles magician and comedian Tye the Magic Guy from 1 to 2 p.m. Sunday, March 24, at the Berkeley JCC Theater, 1414 Walnut St. The Stupendous Mr. Magichead is a magician who can't seem to figure out how his illusions work, where his rabbit is hiding, or why

everyone in the audience is laughing so hard. Call 236-SHOW for information, tickets, and party reservations or visit online at [www.thebuddyclub.com](http://www.thebuddyclub.com).

Our School presents a Prospective Parents Information program from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Saturday March 23, in St. John's Community Center, 2727 College Ave., Room 203. Learn about the school's unique approach to education. Meet the head teacher-director and other parents. Call 704-0701, to reserve a space or for a tour.

## Community

The Fourth Annual Stomp the Stumps Benefit dance party is at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. The event features the Funky Nixons, the Gary Gates Band, the Shui-Lies and other special guests. This is a benefit for Bay Area Coalition for Headwaters. Sliding scale admission, \$8-20. For more information, call 548-3113.

The Albany Preschool presents the Easter Bunny, arriving at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 30, at Albany Memorial Park for a morning of fun and games at

the Spring Fair. Admission to the Spring Fair and Egg Hunt is free. Tickets to participate in other activities will be on sale. The refreshment booth will be open before the egg hunt and beverages and snacks will be available for purchase throughout the morning. Albany Memorial Park is located at Portland Avenue and Ramona Street. The Fair will move to the Albany community center if it is raining. For more information, call 526-4096.

Berkley Camera Club meet Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more information, call Don at 525-3565.

TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) Chapter CA 1294 is now meeting from 7:15-8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening at Mirra Vista UCC Church, 7075 Cutting Blvd. TOPS is a non-profit organization assisting men and women in weight control. For more information call Betty Coates at 235-0490. This chapter has moved from Richmond.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Ban-

croft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levin Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370.

Marion Rosen, founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experimental practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 845-6666.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-

See CALENDAR, Page C7

**49th Annual Junior Bach Festival**

**Concert 1** March 15 7:30 p.m. **St. John's Presbyterian**  
**Concert 2** March 16 3:00 p.m. **San Francisco Conservatory**  
**Concert 3** March 17 3:00 p.m. **St. John's Presbyterian**  
**Concert 4** March 17 7:30 p.m. **St. John's Presbyterian**  
**Concert 5** March 21 7:30 p.m. **First Congregational Church**  
**Concert 6** March 22 7:30 p.m. **Hillsdale Community Center**  
**Concert 7** March 23 7:30 p.m. **Hillsdale Community Center**  
**Concert 8** March 24 3:00 p.m. **First Congregational Church**

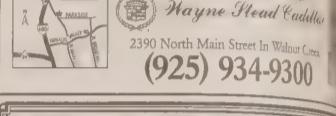
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## Calendar

FROM PAGE C7

training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the fire department's Emergency Operations Center, 897 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

## Events

The Richmond Museum of History continues exhibits highlighting Richmond's environmental beginnings, industrial achievements, and hometown contributions during WWII. Special exhibits and events are held throughout the year. The museum is located in the historic Carnegie Library in the Old Town area at the corner of 4th Street and Nevin Ave. Call 235-7387 for more information or to arrange tours.

## Library Events

Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Bay Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6548 to set up a training session.

Gray Panthers meet at 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 27, at the San Francisco Senior Center, 1901 S. St. Jim Ace of the Clean Money campaign, and the League of Women

Voters will talk about "Clean Money, Clean Politics: Campaign Finance Reform in a Democracy." For more information, call 548-9696.

The Berkeley Camera Club meets Tuesday evenings 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more information, call 525-3565.

The Kensington Senior Activity Center meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Avenue. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for additional information.

The YWCA offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The resources outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For additional information, call 848-6370.

**Speak Smart!** Join Beijing Express Toastmasters. The Smart Club Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2068 Center St. For additional information call 549-9671.

**Toastmasters Meeting:** Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave, Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

**Higher Alignment:** 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. (415) 461-5337; \$20.

**Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS)** meets every Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano below Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information.

**Joy of Yiddish:** Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-8107 for addi-

tional information. The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

**The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group** meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffay Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Dr. Brian Kaye, a rheumatologist has treated many patients with various types of arthritis and will be available for questions. For additional information call 440-4503.

**Toastmasters on Campus** meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Illegass. Details: 704-1822.

**Public speaking skills and metaphysics** come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Illegass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

"Voices of Healing" is a group exploring the psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness and healing. The group meets on the second Friday of each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for more information.

**State Health Toastmasters Club** meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

**Higher Alignment:** 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. (415) 461-5337; \$20.

**Alt Bates Support Groups - Arthritis** Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

**Overeaters Anonymous**, a 12 step program providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave, and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hos-

pital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

**TOPS:** 9:30 a.m., Mondays. Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin, 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858

**Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology** sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday

See CALENDAR, Page C9

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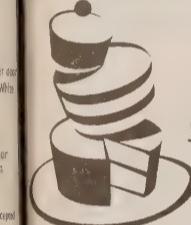
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**calendar**

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From 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Auditorium on Henick Campus, 1000 Henick Way, Berkeley. Details: 204-7047.

**Berkeley High School** Band Ensemble and combos will be performing at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 22, at the Florence Schwimley Little Theater, 1000 Henick Way, Berkeley. Last summer, the band toured Europe where they dazzled audiences at the Montreux and Umbria Jazz Festivals. Tickets available only for \$8 for adults and \$5 for seniors. Call 525-2002 or visit the Web site at [www.berkeleychamberperform.org](http://www.berkeleychamberperform.org).

**First Presbyterian Church** of Berkeley, 2407 Dana St., presents a 90-voice Chancel Choir with the California Chamber Symphony at 8 p.m. Sunday, March 24 A pre-concert lecture at 7:30 p.m. The program includes Ludwig van Beethoven's masterful work, "Mass in C" Childdren's available. Free admission; a free-will offering will be taken. Call 846-

ley Connell plus Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum, Jody Stecher and Kate Brislin, Kathy Kallick, and the Bluegrass Internationals. Dickens received a National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts for her bluegrass work. Tickets: \$18.50 and \$19.50. For more information, call 548-1761.

**Berkeley Chamber Performances**, 2315 Durant Ave., presents pianists "Glover and Hansen," at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 26. The program includes the works of Lisztowski, Dukiewicz, Rachmaninoff and others. Tickets available at the door or by mail. General \$18, students and seniors, \$15. For more information regarding tickets call 525-2002 or visit the Web site at [www.berkeleychamberperform.org](http://www.berkeleychamberperform.org).

**Hazel Dickens** will be performing at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at First Presbyterian Church, 2727 Colman Street. Hazel Dickens will perform with Duane Eddy and the Bluegrass Internationals. Details: 204-7047.

6242 or visit the Web site at [www.fpberkeley.org](http://www.fpberkeley.org).

**Lecture/Workshop**

**East Bay Heritage Quilters** present a lecture by Flo Oy Wong entitled "Angel Island, Immigration and Family Stories," at 7:30 p.m. Monday, March 25, at the First Unitarian Church, 1 Lawson Road — Moeser Lane at Kensington. Members free, non-members \$3. For more information, call Sonia Callahan at 834-3706.

**Theater, Dance & Film**

The film "Hazel Dickens: It's Hard to Tell the Singer from the Song," will be shown at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 21, at UC Berkeley's Pacific Film Archive Theater, Bancroft at Bowditch. Meet bluegrass pioneer Hazel Dickens, filmmaker Mimi Pickering and folklorist/author Arch Green. For ticket information call 642-1412.

**Shotgun Players** present Adam Beck's "A Fair's Tall," at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at Julia Morgan Theater, 2640 College Ave. The story, written expressly for Shotgun players, is a tale of a tough little girl

who seeks the freedom to tell her own story. Tickets: \$18 adults, \$12 children and seniors. For more information, call 704-8210.

**WIT Productions**, 2424 10th St., presents Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice," through March 31 at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave. Hours are: Wednesday through Thursday, 7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m. Cost \$25, general admission. Help price Wednesdays. Discounts available; call for details. Call 925-798-1300 for reservations or more information.

**Classes**

**Vista Community College** offers classes in Adventure Travel, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays through May 23. The course covers various kinds of adventure travel: hard adventure, soft adventure, and cultural/spiritual adventure. The curriculum includes adventure travel specials such as biking mountaineering, overland trips, safaris, rafting, hiking small boat and expedition-style cruising, and more. For more information, call 981-2931.

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# 1965 Buick Electra 225 fits luxury mold from that era

BY VERN PARKER  
MOTOR MATTERS

ough it wasn't what he thought he was looking for, the 1965 Buick Electra 225 owned by Josh Brown actually offered what he wanted.

Four years ago, Brown launched a search for a personal luxury car from the past. He set his sights on the Ford Thunderbird.

In the hunt were Brown's wife, Linda, and their young son Joshua. They looked at numerous cars before narrowing the search to a 1965 Thunderbird and the 1965 Buick Electra 225. Linda was seriously linked to the Thunderbird, but Brown conceded that it needed a lot of work to be made whole.

On the other hand, the Buick was in mint condition and dent-free condition. Brown decided to take a diplomatic secret ballot. The Buick won by a margin.

Brown bought the big Buick from a broker who had purchased the car from its owner in Pennsylvania. Brown soon learned that the 4,272-pound Buick had cost him \$1,000 or about a dollar per pound.

Upon acquiring the Electra 225, affected by among Buick aficionados as "Police and a Quarter," Brown has had his needs.

The 401-cubic-inch V8 develops 325 horsepower, which can propel the Buick to amazing speed. A fuel consumption of 10 mpg on the highway explains why General Motors installed a 25-gallon tank on the 18-foot-long car. The amount of fuel consumption of the 325-hp engine is indicated by the placement of the gauge directly in front of the driver.

The top-of-the-line model came from a factory equipped with power seats, disc brakes, power steering, power windows, power steering and AM/FM stereo system. Through the large side windows are mounted, the small wing vent windows are operated by turning hand cranks. On the chrome-covered dashboard are two fresh-air vents at ankle height.

**bags have their place in history**

BY MATTHEW L. WALD  
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

It is remarkable today that children find it hard to understand why the first car accident happened — 12 years ago, on March 10 — the event was so notable that nearly every article, with two photos, was in the magazine.

It was the first collision in which both drivers were protected by air bags.

On a rural road in Culpeper, Va., two Chrysler LeBarons (which, in hind-sight, young people might also find hard to believe) crashed head-on. Both drivers suffered minor injuries.

Insurance Institute of Highway Safety gave the car a historic tint to the event, by preserving the cars.

"We're on display, as Smithsonian museum pieces," said Russ Rader, a spokesman. Well, not quite the Smithsonian, but the Institute's crash-test lab in Bucknerville.

As we bring groups through, that's the first thing they see when they visit Rader said. A framed newspaper explains the display.

That went into a few cars in the mid-1990s and nearly all of them by the mid-1990s. Jim Hurd, a spokesman for the National Highway Traffic Administration.

There are now about 153 million vehicles in the country with driver's side air bags, and more than 105 million of those have side bags too, his agency estimates.

They've been deployed more than 2,000 times this year — probably much more, but the crash-reporting system does not yet have that data.

It is believed that air bags have saved about 1,000 lives, the majority of them unbelted. They have also killed 202 people, 100 of whom were unbelted.

**Cal Spring RV Show**  
**is to Cal-Expo**

RECREATION ENTERPRISES

— Theme for the 22nd Spring RV Show at Cal-Expo April 4-6 is "Recreational Travel." The show is the largest RV Show in Northern California.

Expecting more than 25 individuals who will bring more than 650 drawing dealers from Santa Rosa.

Special attractions will be those entertainers, Rod Catcart and Bob and their 1923 Model T Dream

returning will be Joe and Vicki Kieve, well-known lecturers, with their always interesting discussions on the RV lifestyle. In question-and-answer period after the show you are encouraged to ask any question about RVing and get an answer that you want.

Days, we offer the most complete line of RVs available in the western

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"Real RV Show" of 2002 is produced by Recreation Enterprises, P.O. Box 95823, Sacramento, CA 95823. For more information please call Reg Travers, 916-855-1234, or Bill Lawrence, 916-391-7469, or on the Web at [www.rvshow.com](http://www.rvshow.com).



THIS 1965 BUICK ELECTRA 225 in pristine condition beat out a dented Ford Thunderbird for honors when the owner and his family took a vote about which car to buy.

fenders are cornering lights.

The windshield is so wide that, in order to clear a sufficient area, the long wipers overlap each other when at rest. The 120-mph speedometer is visible through the two-spoke steering wheel.

The odometer is now at 88,000 miles, which averages out over the car's 36-year life to less than 2,500 miles annually. That mileage figure helps explain the extraordinary original unrestored condition of the Buick.

Thoughtful convenience features are

plentiful throughout the Buick. All four doors are equipped with a vertical chrome-plated hand grip to make closing each door easier. "Those door grips are darling," Brown affirms.

The driver doesn't have to open the window to adjust the outside mirror because there is a manual remote control inside.

Both front and rear seats feature pull-down armrests. Also, the three ashtrays are equipped with cigarette lighters — just a sign of the times.

While passengers could kick off their

shoes and let the plush carpeting tickle their toes, the driver had to contend with the 1965 version of cruise control. It was simply a dial that could be set at any designated speed. When the driver exceeded that speed, an alarm would sound.

A total of 7,197 Buicks similar to Brown's were manufactured. In 1965 the cars didn't attract that much attention because there were many similar-sized cars. But not many have survived.

"It's unique," Brown explains. "That's what attracted me."

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## SUVs

FROM PAGE D1

sloppy suspensions of light trucks. Fuel regulations for these vehicles are far more lenient.

Now, sell the product as a statement of rugged individuality.

Analyst Martin Goldfarb says in the documentary that the selling point was, "America, we're risk takers. America, we're rugged, America, we can take the world on."

And that we did from the high seat of our SUVs, expanding for years on what Goldfarb called a "feeling of personal power." Taking on not just the world, but fellow drivers from our seats of empowerment.

First, it was guys, outdoor types mostly, who wanted that sense of power. Then came regular commuters (for whom power meant getting right up on the bumper of that slowpoke doing only 75 miles per hour). And then came soccer moms as the SUV became a family favorite.

How, though, did the known problems of SUVs go unfixed through more than 20 years of minimal evo-

lution?

In the late '70s, Frontline points out, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration had gotten aggressive, making public the films of such tests as Ford Pintos exploding in flames when hit from behind. Car as toaster oven.

But, the documentary points out, "all that changed when Ronald Reagan was elected president."

Here's Reagan addressing the needs of the auto industry back then: "The U.S. auto industry remains the best in the world."

"It simply needs the freedom to compete unhindered by whimsical bureaucratic changes in energy, environmental, or safety regulations."

"Whimsical" protection against fiery explosions and rollovers?

Diane Steed, picked by Reagan to head NHTSA, rejected her own staff's recommendations to regulate SUVs, according to Frontline. Her reason?

She rejected the science behind their studies showing that taller, heavier, narrower objects tip over more easily than wider, lower objects.

As my kids would say, "Like, duuh, Dad."

Her agency's legal counsel ad-

vised of her staff's report, "revise this paper to reflect the agency position on this issue."

In other words, rollover, schmollover.

What followed was design down the decades that made SUVs (in the hands of idiotic drivers) among the more dangerous vehicles on the road.

Yet profit margins on SUVs were so high, Frontline reported, that it was easier to settle lawsuits than redesign the SUV.

That led, Frontline said, to lawsuits, settlement, and secrecy.

Yet how can we not know by now that SUVs have to be driven carefully?

They long sat on the same platforms as pickup trucks, yet I never saw pickup trucks in accidents at anywhere the rate I saw SUVs in trouble.

That's because pickup truck drivers know they are not driving high performance cars.

The industry is responding, finally, with wider, lower crossover vehicles that offer the hauling capacities of SUVs, yet have the better suspensions of cars, a solution obvious in the study Steed rejected because of bad science.

I wish SUVs had been made more stable much earlier. But I still appreciate their utility.

And it takes a true yahoo to not have known, for several years now, that they can't be driven like cars.

Despite the knowledge that they take a special type of handling, Jerry Curry, NHTSA administrator from 1989-92 asks and answers in the documentary:

"Should I have the right to buy that vehicle? Yes."

"Is it more dangerous than a vehicle that is lower or wider? Yes."

And then he makes two statements that point, precisely to the problem.

"If you don't know that an SUV is not like a car, something is wrong with you," he gets that one right.

"The American people are not stupid . . . they know the vehicle is higher," he concludes.

He gets that one wrong.

I see 12 miles of snowy highway. I see five SUVs off the road. I see five more stupid Americans who did not understand what they were driving.

Please recycle this newspaper.

## Bad window defogger stripes causing blind spot

KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

**Q** My rear window defroster has developed an annoying blind spot a little below the center of the glass.

Upon closer inspection, it seems two of the heating stripes are no longer working. What can be done about this, short of having the window replaced?

Terry Fisher, Norwich, Conn.

**A** Terry, there is a fix for faulty rear window defogger stripes, and if you enjoy tinkering with your car as much as I do, it will be a fun project.

My hunch is the two deadbeat stripes have been accidentally severed (scratched), breaking their electrical path across the window. We need to find the exact location of the injuries, before proceeding with the repair.

A close visual inspection should do the trick, but if the voids are tiny you may need to test for voltage along each strip to be sure of the exact location.

This is simple to do, using an automotive test light (also called a 12-volt circuit tester, around \$5-\$10 at most auto parts stores).

With the defogger turned on, connect the test light's alligator clip to a grounded metal item such as a shoul-

**BRAD BERGHOOLDT**

Auto Q&A

der harness bolt, and gently touch the tool's needle tip to a known good stripe near the left and then right side of the glass.

You'll find the tool will glow brightly when touching one side, and be very dim or off when touching the other. Each strip functions as a separate and very long/thin electrical conductor, dropping voltage (and tester brightness) along its length.

Now that we've identified the plus (bright) and (dim/off) side of the window, we'll search for the bad spots. Gently touch each of the stripes near the center of the window with the test light's tip.

Good stripes will appear half-

bright, and a faulty one will be either full bright or off (the lack of electrical current in the stripe results in a non-linear voltage drop).

If you find the test light is off, touch along the stripe repeatedly in the plus (bright side) direction, until the light suddenly glows. This is the bad spot.

If the test light glows brightly when touched near the center of the glass, slowly work to the side, until it suddenly goes out.

This again is a faulty spot. When checking the stripes, be sure to touch rather than scratch across the fragile conductors with the tester's needle tip, or you may cause new problems.

Now we're ready for the repair. You'll need a Permatex Quick Grid Rear Window Defogger Repair Kit 15067 (\$10-\$12 at most auto parts stores).

After masking both sides of the

stripe with the included template, the kit's conductive material is brushed on (three separate applications), bridging the void.

After 24 hours' cure time you can give the defogger a try.

If a stripe still fails to operate, you'll need to retest (after each repair) to discover additional faults.

Permatek also offers a repair kit to reinstall broken-off rear defogger wire terminals (common on hatchback vehicles). It's called Electrically Conductive Rear Window Defogger Tab Adhesive 21351.

Brad Bergholdt teaches automotive technology at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose. E-mail him at [Bergholdt@Juno.com](mailto:Bergholdt@Juno.com) or write to him in care of Drive, Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95190. He cannot make personal replies.



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## Pontiac gets rolling with its new semi-SUV Vibe

BY MATT NAUMAN  
KIN GHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

**LAS VEGAS** — Like the Chrysler PT Cruiser, the Pontiac Vibe is functional, stylish and well-priced.

But the Vibe comes with all-wheel-drive and the Cruiser doesn't.

Like the Toyota Corolla, the Pontiac Vibe is almost certain to be nearly flawless when it comes to its assembly quality and durability.

But the Vibe has a personality and the Corolla doesn't.

Like the Pontiac Aztek, the Pontiac Vibe is a semi-SUV intended to get young buyers into Pontiac showrooms.

But the Vibe is cheaper (starting at \$16,900 and peaking at under \$23,000) and looks good, and the Aztek is pure ugly.

Yes, the 2003 Vibe has a lot going for it.

But the sports wagon (or tall hatchback or crossover vehicle) that will be produced at the NUMMI plant in Fremont and goes on sale at dealerships nationwide in a few months has hurdles to climb, too.

■ Can the General Motors marketing machine, which has been touting the Vibe for more than a year now, convince young, hip, active buyers to buy a Pontiac?

■ Will young buyers, especially those in influential California, pick a Vibe over the Toyota

Matrix once they learn the two vehicles are virtually identical?

■ And does the Vibe's on-road performance match its aggressive exterior and its pre-launch hype?

I can't tell you that young buyers will go ga-ga over the Vibe, although GM and some auto-industry experts think they will.

And I can't tell you whether the Vibe or the Matrix or both will become big hits in 2002.

But I can tell you that the Vibe, and especially the Vibe GT, is a lively, fun, good-value car that ought to please its owners because I got to drive pre-production versions of the Vibe for an afternoon.

The drive was through one of Las Vegas' seedier neighborhoods — no glitz and glamour here — and then up and toward Lake Mead and back.

The route mixed city traffic with long stretches of open road with plenty of sweeping turns and plenty of uphill and downhill driving.

Going there I drove in a base Vibe model painted frosty (white) with a slate (light gray) interior.

The car had a 130-horsepower, 1.8-liter, four-cylinder engine and an optional four-speed automatic transmission.

Standard equipment included dual front air bags, daytime running lamps, air conditioning, AM-FM stereo with a single-disc CD player, tilt steering wheel and one-touch, fold-flat front-passenger and rear seats.

Options included the automatic transmission, 16-inch aluminum wheels and a power package that included power locks, remote keyless entry, power windows and cruise control.

Dynamically, the car was excellent. Steering was precise. Handling was sure. The brakes — front discs and rear drums — were solid.

The combination of the automatic transmission and the 130-horsepower engine on this 2,780-pound car was better than I had expected.



ing and one-touch, fold-flat front-passenger and rear seats.

Options included the automatic transmission, 16-inch aluminum wheels and a power package that included power locks, remote keyless entry, power windows and cruise control.

Dynamically, the car was excellent. Steering was precise. Handling was sure. The brakes — front discs and rear drums — were solid.

The combination of the automatic transmission and the 130-horsepower engine on this 2,780-pound car was better than I had expected.

It certainly wasn't sports-car fast, but it was more than adequate, even on steep portions of the highway. The engine was a bit noisy, however.

On the way down, I drove in a Vibe GT painted lava (bright red) with a graphite (dark gray) interior.

This car had the 180-horsepower, 1.8-liter VVT-i four-cylinder engine and a six-speed manual transmission.

Antilock brakes and a leather-wrapped steering wheel were added onto the base model.

Options on the GT I drove included 17-inch aluminum

wheels with wet-weather tires and the same power package as on the base model.

Here, the same strong dynamics were coupled with a much more serious engine and a much more fun-inducing shifter.

The result was a wonderful car, one that would please most driving enthusiasts. The Vibe GT still felt responsive at high speeds.

I didn't drive an all-wheel-drive model and, unfortunately, Pontiac won't sell a Vibe GT AWD — the Vibe I would like to buy.

The Vibe looks a little more

aggressive than a Mazda Protege5, a little more outdoorsy than a Matrix.

On the inside, the car is super-functional, yet trendy. It retains the cockpit-feel of other little more

Toyota car is the same, but more

Designed for those in the 20s and 30s, the 2003 Pontiac Vibe does a great job of incorporating function with fashion, and of combining the understated underside and the go-anywhere, take-everything lifestyle of today's young car buyers.

## AUTO BRIEFS

### 'Hands-on' safety clinic teaches neophyte SUV drivers how to properly drive off road

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF 4WD CLUBS INC.

**RANCHO CORDOVA** — Thousands of Northern Californians are buying into the popular sport-utility vehicle market; however, the majority of those owners are not confident that they are ready to take their vehicle off road into the backcountry.

To assist SUV and other four-wheel drive owners, the Capitol City Mountain Goats 4x4 Club will conduct its next four-wheel drive "hands-on" safety clinic April 13 and 14 at the Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation Area east of Sacramento.

Students may choose either date to participate.

The clinic begins with a classroom slide presentation, followed by several hours of memorable hands-on driving, where students will encounter many simulated obstacles similar to what they would find in

the backcountry.

Students will learn how to "walk" their vehicle, how to drive over trails and big rocks, how to drive in the snow and how to use a strap if they get stuck in the mud or snow.

Doug Sinclair, chief instructor for the course, has taught hundreds of students over the past several years.

"With so many people wanting to get off road to their favorite fishing hole or just get away from the big city life, we offer a clinic for a different kind of driving that opens up a whole new world for exploration and adventure," said Sinclair.

"There is no auto club towing or emergency road service for off-highway drivers, so we teach you common sense and build your confidence for virtually every situation you might encounter while driving off the

highway."

Sinclair said that in addition to teaching driving safety, the course puts strong emphasis on the environment. Students will continually hear instructors talk about treading lightly, not disturbing wildlife and staying on designated trails.

Cost for the one-day course is \$50 for the student-driver and \$5 for each ride-along non-driver. For those choosing to pay at the clinic, the cost is \$55.

The Prairie City State Vehicular Recreation area is located off Highway 50, approximately 20 miles east of Sacramento. Take the Prairie City Road exit and continue on Prairie City Road to White Rock Road. Take a right on White Rock Road and watch for the entrance to the park on the left.

The classroom instruction will be conducted in the Capitol City Mountain Goats clubhouse, located near the entrance to the park.

For more information on the 4x4 safety clinic or to make reservations, contact the California Association of Four Wheel Drive Clubs at 916-381-8300 or 800-4x4-FUNN.

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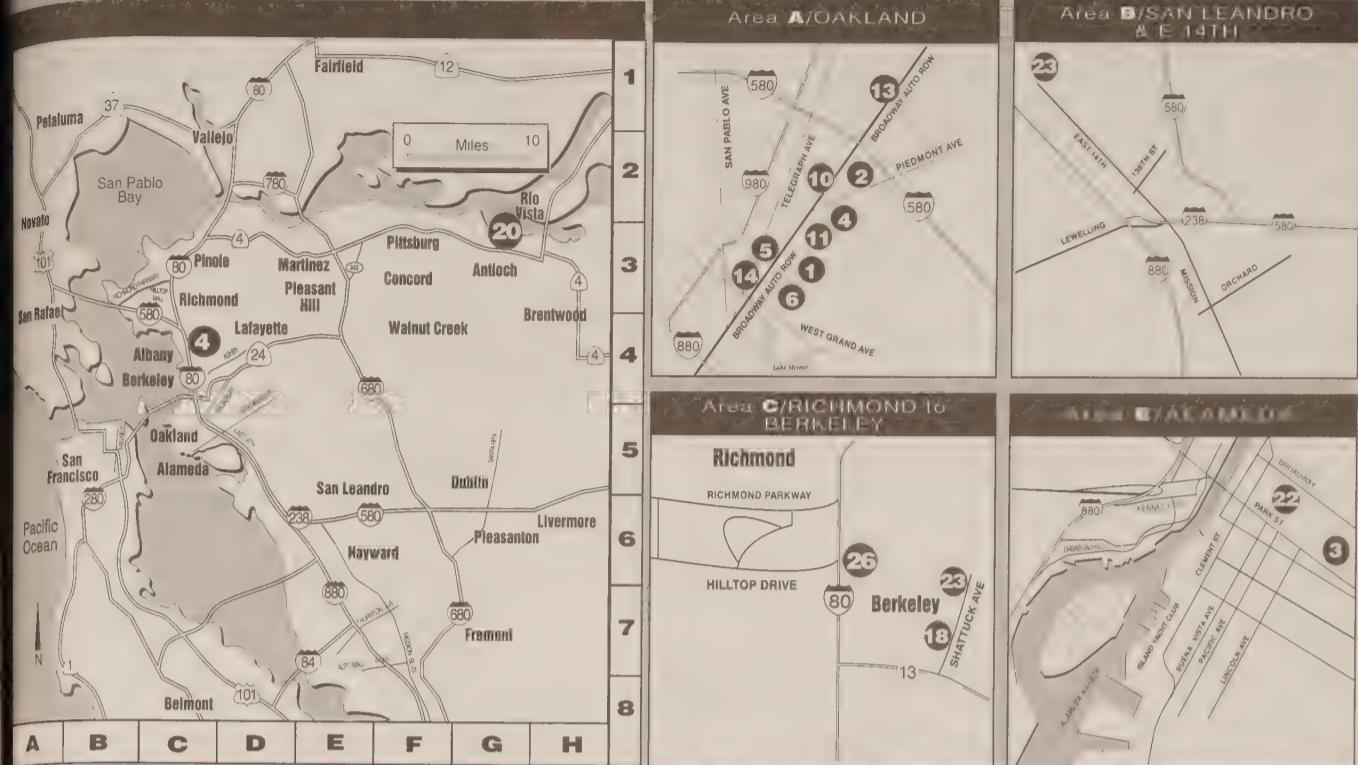
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